

## SEVEN DAYS

## SUN KING?

Ranger Solar's  
big plans  
PAGE 36A mother wants a drug dealer  
to be held responsible for the  
overdose deaths of her two sonsBrothers'  
Keeper

BY HANNAH KATZ



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Eating locavore at the fair

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# DMV SETTLES BIAS CLAIM

In 2014, Vermont passed a law that allows self-identified minorities to drive legally. Championed by transgender groups and the gay community, the law was signed into law by Governor Peter Dinkins.

Alfred Dariusz Rutalski, a Vermont resident who had lived in Vermont for 10 years, headed the Department of Motor Vehicles lawsuit in December to take advantage of the law, an NBC News reported Tuesday on an Oct. 11 message link.

The complaint DMV employees were "sexually hostile," "intimidated and harassed" and "discriminated against" Rutalski, according to a U.S. Department of Justice letter. "There's nothing to the American Civil Liberties Union of Vermont," Rutalski's lawyer said in a complaint made to the Vermont Human Rights Commission.

In fact, the DMV sued Rutalski to a meeting where he was arrested by ICE agents and arrested. He was in custody for 10 days and spent four years in custody in court proceedings.

DMV settled Rutalski's complaint by agreeing to change its driver's license application to provide training to employees to provide discrimination and to pay him \$40,000.

"We acknowledge we have made a couple mistakes and have already gone to work to correct them so they don't occur," DMV Commissioner Robert Johnson said. "We hope that nothing like this happens again."

1. Although the state takes against Mr. Rutalski, based on his national origin, there is nothing about him or others who may wish to take advantage of this important program," Vermont Human Rights Commissioner Karen Richards said in a prepared statement. "The public interest not obtained through this settlement will help to ensure that this will benefit all available to those it is intended to serve without risk of the migration consequences."

Read the full post at [www.vtjournal.com](http://www.vtjournal.com).



## emoji that



**Lake Lake**  
A few weeks ago, a group of people went to a lake to catch a large number of fish. The lake was full of fish, and the water was very clear. A group of people went to the lake to catch a large number of fish.

## BONUS UNIT

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## TECHNOLOGY

Verizon Wireless is launching a new service called Verizon Wireless. The service is called Verizon Wireless. The service is called Verizon Wireless.

## DETERMINATION

A group of people went to a lake to catch a large number of fish. The lake was full of fish, and the water was very clear. A group of people went to the lake to catch a large number of fish.

962



That's how many miles in, according to the woman, that she got her first dog. It was a black and white dog.

## TOP FIVE

1. "Plans for a Vermont University Community Center" by the Vermont University Community Center. The plans for a Vermont University Community Center. The plans for a Vermont University Community Center.
2. "Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again" by the Vermont State Film Festival. The Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again. The Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again.
3. "Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again" by the Vermont State Film Festival. The Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again. The Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again.
4. "Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again" by the Vermont State Film Festival. The Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again. The Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again.
5. "Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again" by the Vermont State Film Festival. The Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again. The Vermont State Film Festival Comes Again.

**tweet of the week:**

What's cool?

It's a great idea to have a tweet of the week. It's a great idea to have a tweet of the week.

Read the full post at [www.vtjournal.com](http://www.vtjournal.com).

**MONKEY BUSINESS**

A car with a license plate that says "MONKEY BUSINESS". A car with a license plate that says "MONKEY BUSINESS".

**MONKEY BUSINESS**

A car with a license plate that says "MONKEY BUSINESS". A car with a license plate that says "MONKEY BUSINESS".

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**MONKEY BUSINESS**

A car with a license plate that says "MONKEY BUSINESS". A car with a license plate that says "MONKEY BUSINESS".



systems to develop the complex solutions necessary to feed our burgeoning human population?

There is an abundance of pressing ecological, economic and social issues in Vermont. How do we plan to seriously confront the persistent environmental issues in Lake Champlain, caused by nitrogen and phosphorus from runoff and our sewage, compromising human health, aquatic health and tourist dollars? It is beyond frustrating to be unable to bring my family to relax a mile from my home because the lake is full of potential E. coli and neuro-and liver toxins released by cyanobacteria.

Directing \$2 million to GMO food labels was foolish and an irresponsible use of taxpayer money. Let us not make the same mistake again.

Laura Hill  
BURLINGTON

Hill is a senior lecturer in the plant biology department at the University of Vermont.

#### STEIN WAY

Thank you for your recent coverage of the Green Party's first All State (Off Message "Will Over Hill" Maria Makes a Play for Bernie-or-Best Protesters," July 22). Though belated after Stein's highly popular speaking event at Burlington's McClure Multigenerational Center, the article was informative about the Green Party candidate for president, and the media is obligated to inform us of our choices in the voting booth.

On August 17, CNN hosted a town hall featuring Stein and her running mate August Horvath, which is now available for viewing on YouTube. Watching it is an opportunity to hear the Green Party candidate answer questions from the public and describe their plan for taking back our government from the wealthy elites, who have hijacked our democracy.

As a former Bernie supporter who is now 100 percent behind Stein and helping to build the international Green Party's presence in Vermont, I believe it is possible that Stein will win, if all the students who stand to benefit from her promise to cancel student debt vote for her. Add to that college graduates of all ages still saddled with student debt, and all progressive-leaning voters in America, if they also join the students in voting for Stein in November, we are almost guaranteed to take back our democracy and put a real progressive in the White House.

Alice Eckles and Ross Conrad  
MIDDLEBURY

#### CONNECTIONS

Two dates were wrong in last week's news story "Bernie's Progressives and Democrats Share Unity Ties." The local Progressive Party committee nominated Marc Young for a House seat on July 7 before the primary. The Vermont Progressive Party was established in 2000.

The August 17 WPT column, "What's the Story Behind Artificial Lake Shubshub?" mentioned the recreation area's dog policy. Leashed dogs are welcome year-round on the Healing Springs Nature Trail, but not on the picnic area or beach between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

#### NEW RX FOR HEALTH CARE

[Re Off Message "Scott, Minister Stewie: Mark Differences in First Debate," August 21] I would like to know why Democratic gubernatorial candidate Sue Minter thinks changing from our Vermont health exchange to the federal exchange, or some other state's exchange, would "leave hundreds of Vermonters with less coverage." As I understand it, the exchange is basically a storefront for the various health insurance plans available in the state. Any other storefront should offer the same products. By proposing to make Vermont Health Connect "fully functional," she is proposing to send many tens of thousands that expensive VHC rebate.

Jim Peabody Sr.  
BURLINGTON

#### BETTER BOAT ACCESS

[Re Off Message "Burlington Harbor Master Get Council Approval," June 26]. There are now plans developing for two marinas at Burlington's waterfront. In addition to the private marina near the

FOOTLOCK IN POA

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## VIDEO SERIES



Universality



**Stuck in Vermont:** September is Suicide  
Prevention Awareness Month. Ben Seltzer  
talks with Vermonters who have lost loved  
ones to suicide and interviews mental health  
experts about warning signs.

STUCK IN VERMONT

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## Surveying Irene's Destructive Path, in the Mad River Valley and Beyond

BY CORIN HENCH

In Richmond and Winooski, Wardsfield Mountains, you can tell where the flood waters traveled by the gray-brown crust that coats  
porches, flowers, cars and walls. Entire fields of corn lay spent, the water rendering them inedible.

In Richmond, the Winooski River spilled throughout downtown, claiming 15 pigs and all of the crops and hay at Jericha Settlement Farm,  
raising the entire produce at On the River Bakery in Richmond and, of course, spilling through houses. When the same river poured into  
downtown Waterbury on Sunday night, it filled the basement of the Alchemist Pub & Brewery, raising around legs and bags of grain so it  
wasn't possible to pick up the room, shock it and throw it back down. It also ran onto the main floor so water level before pulling back Monday  
morning. Later that day, some of the pub's 22 employees were scrubbing and pushing out mud.

"They're here cleaning, and I don't have any way to pay them," co-owner Jim Kinschick said of her workers, overseas.



**20 | 20**  
HINDSIGHT  
two decades of  
Seven Days

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED  
August 30  
2011

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# the MAGNIFICENT 7

MUST SEE, MUST DO THIS WEEK  
COMPILED BY SAGE WILLIAMS



## OPENS FRIDAY 2 FULLY PRESSED

If you're into printmaking or want to know more about the medium, check out "**New Registrations**" at Frog Hollow Vermont Craft Gallery in Burlington. The show, which opens on Friday, was curated by gallery director Rob Hunter and local art collector Mark Winslow and it brings together 14 artists who operate on the fringes of traditional technique.

SEE ART LISTING ON PAGE 75

1



2

## SATURDAY 3 & SUNDAY 4 Palatable Emperium

Gallerians go ready for the 20th annual **Grief and Taste Festival**. The festival, at Concord Village in Burlington, includes vendors, live music, food, and a chance to enjoy the local arts scene. Workshops, lectures, and networking will be held.

SEE ART LISTING ON PAGE 66

3

## SATURDAY 3 Strap In!

Adventure enthusiasts have been working hard to raise money for **Over the Edge for the Flyin'**, the benefit, which supports the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, consists of the mountaineers rappelling from the top of the Coward Memorial in Burlington. Donators keep their distance on the network below.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 64

4

## SUNDAY 4 Waxing Lyrical

The **Jean Harrison Lenoir Summer Reading Series** in Rochester is coming to a close. Former Vermont poet laureate Spiny Lee is teaming up with Sue Miller for a recital of verse that wanders into and leaves the lyric arts world's backside.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 67

5

## SUNDAY 4 Block Beats

They're at it again: Burlington's prices of pop. **Madness on Main**, the monthly event, will feature **Madness** and an entire block of **Madness**, bringing in acts including **Deicide**, **Slayer**, **Lynyrd Skynyrd**, and **Lynyrd Skynyrd**. Prepare to party.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 67

6

## MONDAY 5 Arts for Recovery

The 2010 documentary short **"Parker's Art"** follows **Parker's** journey from a troubled past to a successful career in the arts. The film, which is currently screening at the **Arts for Recovery** event, will be followed by a screening to discuss how art and poetry helped her achieve healing, peace, and success.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 67

7

## TUESDAY 6 Not Just Folk

**Grassroots: Modern American Modernism** is currently showing at the **Shirley Museum**. The exhibit, which is currently showing at the **Shirley Museum**, includes a number of her paintings, alongside other 20th-century works, allows you to form your own opinion and learn a little more about **Anna Mary Robertson Moses** in the process.

SEE ART LISTING ON PAGE 77

## GOP Flop

## POLITICS



**N**ot far from the fried dough and racing pits, PAH and ARAM ACCORDO were working to elect DONALD TRUMP president on Monday night at the Champlain Valley Fair.

"Support has already because I'm worried about safety," Pam Accordo explained as she exhibited Trump-brain signs inside the Robert E. Miller Expo Center. "And I worry she's a border wall. And I want to see the laws for immigration enforced... We're either a country of laws or we're not."

Seated on metal folding chairs inside a Champlain County Republican Party booth, the Colchester couple occasionally interrupted their sign making to distribute campaign materials to passersby. On offer were pamphlets for statewide and legislative candidates — and a slew of Trump stickers and paraphernalia. Leaning against a far corner of the booth were a few lawn signs for the party's best bet here in Vermont: Lt. Gov. PHIL SCOTT, who is running for governor as an anti-Trump moderate.

"That's northern me — definitely," Pam Accordo said of the Scott-Trump split. "If you're a New Trumper, you're for [Democratic nominee] HILLARY [Clinton], in my opinion."

Pressed further on what Scott's anti-Trump position said about the LG, Accordo demurred.

"I'm not gonna answer that," she said. ACCORDO DUNKED was more forthcoming. As he dropped by the booth to pick up a Trump bumper sticker, the Fairfield RV salesman referred to Scott as "another Republican line."

"You know what?" he said. "These guys who are afraid to say they support Trump — it's like, you're not gonna get my vote."

Asked who he would support in Vermont's gubernatorial election this November, Dunfee quickly backtracked.

"I'm gonna vote for Phil because he's a Republican," he said. "The worst Republican is better than the best Democrat."

Scott is hardly the only leader in his party to have distanced himself from Trump. The list includes such sitting senators as BEN SHELTON of Newbedea and SUSAN COLLINS of Maine, along with governors LARRY HOGAN of Maryland and CHARLIE BEAVER of Massachusetts. But the Vermonters appear to be one of just two GOP gubernatorial nominees up for election this year to have done so. The other is Washington State's BEN SVETKEY.

Accordo and Dunfee note, Scott's stance is most certainly an asset during

a general-election race in tea-bite Vermont. But it has led to an unusual situation within the local GOP infrastructure. The Vermont Republican Party does not plan to lift a finger for its own presidential candidate.

"Obviously Donald Trump is our nominee for president nationally and we'll support him," Vermont GOP chair DAVID SHERRILL says. "But our energy and our focus is completely on statewide races and continuing to pick up legislators' seats."

According to Sherrill and the party's executive director, APHONY BAILEY, the organization will not mention Trump when it calls voters, knocks on doors or sends mass mailings.

"We've told the Trump campaign that if they want us to be a distribution point for people to pick up that stuff, that's fine," Bailey says. "But the focus of our effort is to support Vermont Republican candidates."

Sherrill, a former state representative who lives in Rutland, won't even say whether he personally supports Trump. "It doesn't matter what I think," he says.

That's not to say that the presidential nominee is without friends in Vermont.

## REPUBLICANS FAILED TO FILL THEIR SLATE.

Trump loved veteran operative DAVID JACOBSON in May to serve as his state director and recently tapped Charles Atkinson and state party vice chair ARAM ACCORDO to be his campaign's Vermont chair. And local groups, such as the Champlain County GOP, are free to promote Trump. Sherrill says — as they did this week at the fair.

It's unclear whether Scott's opposition to Trump will cost him — or the state party — financial support. The Republican National Committee, which did not respond to a request for comment, is currently directing just \$1,250 per month to its Vermont affiliate, according to Bailey.

"I think the RNC's focus is really more on swing states," Sherrill says. "So I don't think they were going to be a major player in Vermont anyway."

The Republican Governors Association appears to be perfectly fine with Scott's defection. The group has far worse been running television advertisements promoting the LG.

"It doesn't have any bearing," RGA spokesman JON THOMPSON says. "Scott

has demonstrated that he's focused on Vermont, not the presidential race, and I think that's something Vermont voters appreciate in a gubernatorial candidate."

Scott campaign coordinator BENTLEY NELSON says the Trump situation "hasn't played a huge role either way" in fundraising — or courtship votes.

"I think they can put their small differences aside and just know that Phil's the candidate who's gonna make Vermont more affordable," she says.

While the Vermont GOP is finally behind Scott, it's hardly flush with resources. The organization has raised just \$261,000 in its federal account this calendar year and had just \$8,550 in its latest filing with the Federal Election Commission. The Vermont Democratic Party, by contrast, collected \$424,000 and had nearly \$500,000 in reserves.

The GOP is also outmanned. In addition to Bailey, it has just three others on staff. It's opened six field offices, some of which are operated by volunteers.

The Democrats have a far more sophisticated operation. The party has 30 full-time staffers on the payroll — including nine field organizers and three regional field directors — and has 11 offices open, scrambling to spokeswoman CHRISTINA HENRICH.

Since June, coordinated campaign director CAMERON HENRICH and his team have been running a \$500,000-\$600,000 effort to identify likely voters and build a field apparatus for whichever candidate wins the Democratic primaries. The party has already attempted to limit 170,000 voter contacts, Russell says, and is set to exceed by 150 percent the 300,000 it made two years ago.

Political professionals generally agree that even the best field organizations only shift a race's outcome by a few percentage points — but that can make all the difference.

"We're pretty confident that in 2016, even if it was for the field program, we may well have lost that race," Russell says, referring to Democratic Gov. PETER SHERRILL's 2014 vote victory over Republican CAROL FERGUSON.

Even if 2016 turns out to be a banner year for the GOP, Republicans are limited in how many offices they can fill. The party filed in field candidates to challenge Congressmen PETER NELSON (D-Vt.), Treasurer JEN PEASE of Secretary of State JIM CONNORS. Even the fringe Liberty Union Party managed to recruit more statewide candidates.



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And while Scott may be the strongest candidate the Republicans have run since former governor **JIM DOUGLAS**, not everyone on the state is making a real go of it.

Even consultant **JOHN FELICIANO**, who ran for governor in 2010, is challenging Democratic/Progressive state Auditor **BOB HOPPER** this fall. But Feliciano has been working in Mexico for the past two months, returning to Vermont only briefly for weekends. He confirmed his new gig is on a road to seven days a week and a half ago but hasn't responded to requests for an interview since.

"Is that why I don't see him?" Republican attorney general candidate **LEE BUCKMAN** says of Feliciano. "I don't think I've ever met him."

Milne, meanwhile, is running one of the most unconventional U.S. Senate races in the country. The almost-governor challenged 40-year incumbent Sen. **PATRICK LEAHY** (D-Vt.) in May, but he hasn't held a single public event since. He has raised almost no money, has barely updated his website and says he doesn't plan to hire any staffers. His daughter, **MALE HAN**, couldn't wait her upcoming gig as his campaign manager until she took the bar exam last month.

That's not to say that Milne's been taking it easy. He says he spends roughly an hour a day standing by the side of the road, holding a "Milne for Senate" sign. Seven Days spotted him two weeks ago lurking alone at the southbound on-ramp of Interstate 89 in South Burlington.

"That sign were went pretty good," he says. "I had one streak of 30 votes and thumbs-up in a row. But it had a streak of two thumbs-downs, four no-responses and then two birds in a tree."

Rounding out the Republicans' statewide slate are Buckman, the AG candidate, and **ANDY BRACE**, who is running for lieutenant governor. Both have been working hard and coordinating with the Scott campaign. But both face energetic, well-financed Democratic opponents: Chittenden County State's Attorney **T.A. BOWEN**, who is running for AG, and Sen. **DAVID ZUCKERMAN** (R/D-Chittenden), who's running for LG.

Buckman acknowledges that her party hasn't put together the strongest team.

"We haven't filled out the top tier, but that'll be next election," she says with a laugh. "That's another reason I'm running. It's good for democracy. It's good to have competition."

Indeed, Vermont could use a little more.

## What the Cluck

Milne may not be running much of a campaign, but Sen. Leahy seems strangely reticent to debate him.

As we reported last week, the Republican challenger has been trying, without success, to talk the Democratic incumbent into at least four broadcast tie-ins — on WCAX, WFTZ, Fox 44 and Vermont PBS. But Leahy has said he'll only take part in three — on Vermont PBS, Vermont Public Radio and Burlington public access station Channel 17 — and he will not participate in any newspaper debates.

Last Friday, Leahy campaign manager **AMY TILTON** explained why. The senator is just too darn busy.

"Sen. Leahy's first priority is the job Vermonters elected him to do," Tilton said in a press release, "but he looks forward to returning to the campaign trail once Senate business concludes this fall."

Um, What? The Senate started a seven-week recess on July 18 and isn't scheduled to return until September 5.

When Seven Days pointed out the discrepancy, Tilton said he "should have been more clear," but even after repeated requests, he would not provide a detailed schedule of what Leahy's been up to for the past six weeks.

Tilton did provide modest explanations as to why Leahy wouldn't take part in debates hosted by any, WCAX, WFTZ, Seven Days or the Burlington Free Press "precursor."

"Traditionally, there are three debates in races for the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House," he said. "Senator Leahy will follow that precedent."

But to Milne pointed out Monday in an open letter to his opponent, Leahy hasn't always abided by such self-imposed rules.

"You claim that Vermont 'tradition' dictates a limit of three debates for the office of U.S. Senate," Milne wrote. "I found that ridiculous claim all the more disingenuous given you challenged Jim Douglas to six debates in 1992."

Milne also pointed to another recent flip-flop. During a NPR debate with 1998 Republican nominee **PAUL WYMAN**, Leahy sounded as if he were the president of Cautious Cluck.

"I'm the only person ever elected to federal office in Vermont who's done it without taking PAC money," the senator said. "And I don't. I've seen how the scramble for PAC money allows too many of the special interests to come in."

Leahy's certainly seen it by now. In the past six years, according to the FEC, he's raised more than \$1.1 million from special-interest PACs.

Asked for an explanation, Tilton would only say that Milne "continues to run a campaign by press release."

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# Investigated for Fraud, Burlington Labs Seeks a Bailout — Stat

BY MOLLY WALSH

**T**here were plenty of patients in the third-floor waiting room at Burlington Labs on Friday — despite the recent news that the Vermont-grown drug-screening company based at Greenhouse Plaza is on the verge of bankruptcy. There was no indication of trouble online, either, instead, the company sent out cheery messages on sobriety strategies and promoted its addiction chat on Twitter.

But in Montpelier, a new story line was emerging about Burlington Labs. A blog with the Green Mountains Care Board revealed that the now-seconded local company has been negotiating a Medicaid fraud settlement with the Vermont Office of the Attorney General that could total \$4.5 million, potentially the largest of its kind in state history. There have been no formal charges, and the AG is offering few details — other than to say it is investigating Burlington Labs for “improper or incorrect” claims during 2015.

In their August 19 filing for an emergency certificate of assets, the company’s website told health care regulators that Burlington Labs’ fees from state and federal programs will go under unless a plan is approved — quickly.

James Crook of Bellhorne, the former CEO at IIX Systems medical software company, is the lead investor in the group that wants to buy the drug-testing operation. Crook and his lawyers urged regulators at the Green Mountains Care Board to fast-track a review of their proposed new company, which would be called Burlington Labs Acquisition.

Last Wednesday, Crook pitched the bailout to the state in a memo to help Burlington Labs’ 180 employees, including 140 in Vermont, keep their jobs and allow patient-treatment programs to continue to afford the company’s drug-screening services.

“To be able to do something that matters — that’s what I spent my entire career trying to do,” Crook told Vermont’s health care regulators. Crook led BDX through its sale to GE Healthcare in 2006 for \$1.5 billion. He has since worked as a private equity investor.

Crook’s investment went over well with the board, which voted unanimously to do an emergency review, shortening a five-month study that could take more months.

But the prospective purchase raises numerous questions. They include the propriety of involving Burlington Labs co-founder Michael Cassano in the new review despite the fact that he was in charge of the company when it ran into trouble.



Michael Cassano at Burlington Labs.

Cassano declined to comment for this story, but Crook maintains that the over-billing was not intentional but erroneous, echoing a statement issued by Burlington Labs last week.

Crook initially told the Green Mountains Care Board that Cassano would be on the board of the new company that Cassano and other accused principals, described as “former owners” of Burlington Labs, would be more than advisors. They would have a 13 percent ownership stake in the new company, according to documents filed Friday with the board. Crook’s investor group would own 62 percent and the University of Vermont Health Network would have a 25 percent stake.

Another issue under what conditions the new company should be allowed to operate. Crook assured regulators that the new Burlington Labs will pay the amount due to the state, in full, but on Friday, the AG sent the board a letter saying it isn’t to grant a permit until a settlement has been finalized. Ensuring that the government receives appropriate compensation for “improper or inaccurate claims submitted by Burlington Labs” should be a critical component of the review, wrote Jason Turner, director of the Medicaid Fraud and Abused and Abuse Unit.

In a letter to the board earlier last week, the AG’s office underscored the large scale of the Burlington Labs billing problems, suggesting it wasn’t simply a

minor bookkeeping error. The company’s Medicaid claims reimbursement for the first six months of 2015 was more than the total the company had received in the five prior years combined, the letter stated.

Vermont’s Medicaid payments to the company for all of 2015 totaled nearly \$12.1 million, according to the Vermont Health Access Department.

With an infusion of capital from investors and a bank loan, Crook hopes to pay off the company’s debt and break even as soon as 2017 — a goal that should be attainable if the new entity meets projected revenues of \$20.4 million this year and \$21 million the next.

Many current employees would be laid off, so any, and the company’s network of a dozen or so Vermont walk-in labs would remain largely intact. A closed lab in Montpelier would reopen, a latter lab would move to Montpelier, and a new lab might open in White River Junction. The company would close two labs, one in Bloomington and one in New York.

Naturally, pharmaceutical and drug-screening companies are doing a brisk business of addiction recovery substances, used widely to get people off heroin and prescription painkillers, is among the

most frequently prescribed drugs in the U.S., with sales comparable to Viagra.

Drug screening plays a role in treatment. Patients are often required to provide urine samples to prove that they are not using illegal drugs and also to verify they are taking their treatment meds, such as Suboxone and methadone.

Both Medicaid and Medicare cover drug screening, and the growing tab for the state has triggered scrutiny by federal and state agencies. Last year, one of the largest drug-screening companies in the U.S., San Diego-based InVivoMetric Health, agreed to pay the government \$156 million to settle claims that it billed for unnecessary tests.

Smaller ones around the country follow the pattern — the government sues rather than filing fraud charges, which could shutter bookkeeping and make it hard for the government to recover any money.

At Bellhorne, chair of the Green Mountains Care Board, speculated that this strategy could be to play at the Vermont Attorney General’s Office in the Burlington Labs case.

“Let’s be clear here: If they file fraud charges against the company, they are never going to see their money,” Gobeille said.



James Crook

It's not up to the board to decide the Medicaid allegations, Gobeille emphasized, but the GMCB might place conditions on any permit, including full payment of the settlement before the new company can operate. The board could also restrict current leadership from moving to the new operation if there is an admission or finding of fraud, Gobeille said.

"You could say that whenever got the company there shouldn't be a part of the new company, the government. I'd need the AG to say that they believe there were wrongdoings," Gobeille said. "Which I don't know they will say."

Other drug-processing companies do business in Vermont, including Duquoin Dispensaries, which has a facility in Williston, and Accredited Drug Testing, with multiple locations. Both are headquartered out of state. Some of Vermont's largest addiction treatment providers, such as the Howard Center's Chittenden Clinic in South Burlington, do much of their testing at-home but use Burlington Labs for confirmation tests.

The company last served at least 2,000 Vermonters this year, a lawyer for Crook's investment group told the board.

"It's absolutely critical that we keep Burlington Labs alive so that we can keep Vermonters safe," Gov. Peter Shumlin said at a press conference last Thursday at the Vermont Health Department in Burlington. "I mean, we rely on their testing to help settle the battle that we're all engaged in together. So I'm really concerned about what's going on there. If we lose Burlington Labs, we've got a real problem."

Health Commissioner Harry Chen said urine drug-testing services are essential in drug-recovery programs as well as when treating people with chronic pain. "And that's also important in our corrections system, in terms of people who are released under conditions," he said at the same press conference. "So we need that infrastructure in Vermont, and clearly Burlington Labs has provided a significant proportion of that to date."

Burlington Labs has grown dramatically since Crook and his wife founded it in 2006. Crook is a recovering drug user and has made a practice of hiring many former addicts as the company grew from 11 people in 2006 to roughly 400 today. Offering ongoing test results and a community-included approach, the Chittenden grew Burlington Labs beyond Vermont. It has contracts in 20 other states and offices in Kentucky and

Massachusetts. Also in those two states would not disclose whether they were investigating the Vermont company.

Crook told the board that a friend contacted him in March 2014 saying that Burlington Labs was struggling on cashflow and needed half a million dollars to make payroll. He learned that as a result of the then-unpublished Medicaid investigation, the state had reduced payments to the company. (According to the AG's office, the company's financial problems began before the Medicaid payment reduction and were not directly related.)

Crook recruited several other investors, including former IDA executives Christopher Powell and John Kane, to come up with a new business plan. The Medicaid investigation became public when he made his case to the Green Mountain Care Board.

As part of its filing, the acquisition group submitted letters of support. Burlington Mayor Miro Weinberger put in a plea to keep jobs downtown. The Tarrant Post Center, Spectrum Jobs & Family Services, and the Howard Center all reached for the company's important role in recovery.

"There are few employers willing to employ individuals with addictions and other criminal backgrounds," wrote Maria Maloney, executive director of the United Way of Chittenden County. "Burlington Labs has been a beacon for many to help them get back on their feet and to lead productive lives in our communities."

But the letter also included pleas from businesses that want the company to avoid bankruptcy for more practical reasons — so all the creditors willing to lend will get their money back.

Burlington Labs owes at least \$3.7 million in unpaid bills, which the buyers have pledged to pay all.

David Kopteva, managing principal at TransCullian Architecture + Interior Design in Burlington, wrote that the firm was "heartened" that the acquisition group would maintain Burlington Labs' services and make good on those debts. His firm is not \$100,000.

While the Green Mountain Care Board will work on a speedy review of the new company, its evaluation will explore many issues, Gobeille said.

He promised, "It will be very thorough."

Paul Rhinco contributed reporting to this story.

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# Ranger Solar Is Winning Support for 100-Acre Arrays

BY KRITIE JOCKLING

**A** Maine-based company appears to have found a formula to win local backing for often controversial solar-energy projects: careful siting, a dose of persistence and a willingness to alter plans to overcome objections.

Ranger Solar's ability to earn select-board approval is particularly noteworthy given the size of its projects. While proposals for much smaller solar installations have encountered fierce local resistance around Vermont, Ranger Solar has won outright support in three towns for arrays that average 800 acres apiece.

If completed, each of the company's five proposed 20-megawatt installations would be six times bigger than the largest array operating in Vermont — a 16-acre, 3.6-megawatt solar field on its Raccoon Junction farm. The 95,000 solar panels needed for each \$79 million Ranger project would cover an area up to the size of 36 football fields and could power 3,000 homes.

The projects' size has not deterred Laddow, Shelburne or Brandon, where selectboards have signed letters of support for Ranger Solar's proposals in their towns. The company is negotiating with Randolph and Highgate for similar-size projects.

Still, Ranger's success is far from assured. Local backing does not guarantee that any of the solar fields will ultimately be built.

Over Peter Sheehan's bid last fall that the projects are too big for Vermont, and the state's utilities — which would supply and buy the power — here at times vocally opposed the arrays. Ranger Solar must now appear before the state Department of the Public Service Board, which will consider many factors to determine whether the projects serve the public good.

So far, Ranger has sought 7500 approval only for the Laddow solar field. The board has indicated it will make a decision by year's end.

That it has earned local backing will definitely help Ranger's case. The company's projects contrast with much smaller solar development proposals that have been talked or delayed by a barrage of public opposition.

Last year, Randolph Town residents went to the Vermont Superior Court to try to block a proposed 2.3-megawatt solar array (The court ruled in April in favor of the developer.) Butland Town's experience had more than 50 towns to sign a petition requesting greater say in the siting of



Solar array in South Londonderry

IF COMPLETED, EACH OF THE COMPANY'S FIVE PROPOSED 20-MEGAWATT INSTALLATIONS WOULD BE SIX TIMES BIGGER THAN THE LARGEST ARRAY OPERATING IN VERMONT.

renewable energy projects. New Haven, Charlotte and Keeneland have all seen vocal protests against small solar projects, and intense local opposition in Windham led voters to prohibit Green Mountain Power to subsidize three plans for a 35-acre array.

Ranger heard these stories and planned accordingly, and company president Adam Cohen says the solar developer is engaging in grassroots work to defuse conflicts before they start.

A size is point is at an interview, Brandon Selectboard vice chair Jeff Hopkins revealed that residents expressed concern about the lack of wildlife corridors through the proposed solar field. In response, Ranger Solar purchased additional land so that animals would have room to pass between the panels.

"That was good on our part," Hopkins said. "They go the extra mile."

Ranger Solar representative Aurora Swindle jumped in when a Randolph resident complained at a meeting in June

about the project's effect on his view. Only tall trees could screen the array, he said.

"Trees? What kind of trees do you want?" Swindle asked.

"Maple — 16 feet tall!" the man said back. Swindle agreed to pay for the landscaping, and the objection fell silent.

The Department of Public Service, utilities and other stakeholders are keeping a close eye on Ranger's plans. Officials say the projects may set precedents for the permitting, siting and energy sales of future solar installations.

If all five Ranger projects were to be built, the additional 100 megawatts of energy would increase the state's total solar output by about 70 percent, according to Jon Capoen, deputy commissioner of DPS.

"These things are significant just by virtue of the scale of the projects," and Capoen. "Any project that is approved has the potential to become a model for a future project. It demonstrates there's a pathway to approval."

The projects are ambitious for a year-and-a-half-old company with six employees and no completed solar development. While Ranger Solar is also working to establish arrays in New Hampshire, Connecticut and Maine, the Laddow project — at 90 acres, the smallest of the five proposals — is farthest along, Cohen said. He said he doesn't know when the company will file FSA applications for the other developments.

Before Ranger, Cohen founded and spent six years running Pioneer Green Energy, a Thruway company that installs major renewable energy projects across the U.S. By the time Cohen left to establish Ranger Solar, he had overseen the creation of 700 megawatts of wind and solar projects in six states, he said. He was drawn to New England, he said, by the burgeoning market for solar.

When it comes to siting solar development, Ranger has its own set of criteria, town officials open to the possibility, a landowner willing to lease land, minimal environmental impacts, and proximity to a substation to connect to the electric grid.

In each of Ranger Solar's target towns, the company spent months finding locations off the beaten path and worked again and again to understand with amended project plans.

In Brandon, Ranger Solar's choice of a site — relatively isolated, accessible from Route 2, on a dirt road that's not maintained during winter — was key to winning support.

"If they had come in and said, 'We want to put a 20-megawatt array along Route 7 when you come over there,' I think it would have been a whole different discussion," said Hopkins, the selectboard vice chair.

"To be honest with you, we got just a little negative feedback," and Brandon town manager David Atherton of the public response Ranger Solar was "really amenable to work with," he added.

In Laddow, the first town to offer support, the solar array would be located on hayfields and pastured away from the town center.

"It's on a dirt road — this project is significantly out in the middle of nowhere," said Frank Heald, the municipal manager. (Ranger Solar) worked diligently, I believe, with the surrounding landowners meeting, negotiating agreements."

The selectboard voted unanimously to endorse the proposal in December.



Schoen's board also voted unanimously for its army and was "very supportive" of the proposal, according to Cohen.

Ranger Solar has reconsidered more alternatives — and outright opposition — in Randolph, where the solarboard has not yet voted on the proposed project. There, questions of scale and aesthetics were immediately feared. Randolph Schoolboard chair Larry Richburg expressed doubts early on, the *Record* of Randolph reported.

"A 100-acre solar farm seems a little out of scale for Vermont," Richburg said at a September meeting with the developer, according to the *Record's* report. "My biggest concern, as well, is it be hidden away enough so it won't be an eyesore?"

At a June public hearing, some residents called the 100-acre proposal "the-leached," and one resident deemed the conflict "way too extreme" for a town of Randolph's size.

Cohen said Ranger Solar plans to return to Randolph with an amended site plan in the coming months.

In Highgate, town administrator Heidi French-Adams declined to comment on talks with Ranger Solar, worrying that "would put the town at a substantial disadvantage in respect to the negotiation process."

Ranger has offered each of the five towns a financial package — about \$175,000 upon construction of the array, with annual \$35,000 payments in the first five years of solar operation and \$25,000 in following years — though the specifics of the deals vary by town.

According to Luskoff's Hild, the financial incentives didn't determine the schoolboard's decision, but they didn't hurt, either. "It's money that the town might not otherwise have that might just sweeten the pot," he said.

Scorning that full, towns can be assured a stronger voice in the siting of renewable-energy projects. A bill passed in June by the legislature grants towns "substantial deference" in determining the siting of renewable energy projects — stronger language than the "due consideration" required under current law.

Ranger Solar says it's already compliant with the new rules.

"We already do all the stuff in the bill," Cohen said. "More, actually."

Another problem? Until recently, the Vermont utilities that would buy Ranger's power have vehemently opposed the array, because the company was seeking

permission from the Public Service Board to charge federally allowed rates; the local utilities consider it too high. Now Ranger has indicated it will ask its own deals to sell the energy directly to one or several Vermont power companies.

Cohen declined to say whether those talks were under way.

Without more information, power companies aren't sure where they stand on Ranger's landfill project. "We'll have to see what their plans are," said Heidi Landerelli, general manager for the Burlington Electric Department. "Where they're going to sell, who they're going to sell to."

At the same time, the state's renewable-energy goals are looser. By 2021, Vermont electric utilities must buy 55 percent of their energy from renewable sources.

The state aims to reach 90 percent renewable energy by 2050.

Ranger Solar secures an agreement with utilities to buy its energy, there's a chance it won't contribute toward Vermont's energy goals. Renewable-energy credits associated with a project must be sold in Vermont to count toward those goals.

Cohen has indicated that the company intends to sell both the energy and the credits for the array in Vermont, though typically, energy companies can get better prices for credits outside of the state.

It's important that the state reap the benefits from Ranger Solar and similar projects, and retiring Rep. Tony Klein (D-East Montpelier), chair of the House Natural Resources and Energy Committee, Vermont insists 45 percent of its energy, he noted, and credits lost money when on energy production.

According to Dorr Cohen, the debate around the future of solar energy and proposals like Ranger's in Vermont comes down to philosophical questions: "Do we prefer to have 40,500-kilowatt projects or one 30-megawatt project?"

Such questions won't be going away anytime soon — and neither will Ranger Solar.

According to Highgate Schoolboard minutes from September, the company broached the possibility of a 200-acre west, 1,600-acre installation.

"It could be a long, long-term horizon, but it's not something we're working on anytime soon," Cohen admitted Steven Dyer. Then he mentioned the state's aggressive goals for renewable energy.

"There's going to need to be a lot of clean energy in Vermont," he said. "You're not going to get there by smaller projects." ☐

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Protesters participating in a walk along Route 7 in South Burlington, September 4, 2008

## Walk of Ages

How a five-day march through western Vermont helped launch a climate movement

BY BILL MCINTOSH

**T**he parallelisms were so stark, an experience to expect. Why would the fifth anniversary of some great event provide more meaningful analysis than, say, the 45th anniversary? And at this particular case, it's not even a great event — just a small ripple in the force that is significant mostly for setting something larger in motion.

That said, the 10th anniversary of the climate march at Vermont, which I helped to organize over a Labor Day weekend, means a lot to me. It marked the end of my relatively quiet life as mostly a writer and the start of a hectic one being mostly an activist. I've thought of it frequently this summer, trying to recapture how the world seemed to me then, and how it seems now it seems fitting to allow those recollections to the neighbors and friends who marched shoulder to shoulder those five sunny days a decade ago.

I'd long been worried about climate change, of course. I wrote *The Road to Nowhere*, which is generally regarded as the first book for a general audience on the subject, way back in 1988. And for most of the years that followed, I thought we were engaged in an argument about global warming. A

writer and an academic, I figured my job was to provide more books, more articles, more talks — and that, with enough data, our leaders would eventually heed the scientific warnings and do something.

By 2004, however, that faith was hard to maintain. The U.S. had refused to ratify even the modest Kyoto Protocol. As the scientific predictions began to become reality — among them that the Arctic began to melt at an alarm — the Bush/Cheney White House was essentially turned into an arm of the fossil-fuel industry. I started to lose up.

The world's scientists had spoken with one voice and unanimity to tell the world that we faced our greatest crisis ever. And yet they were being ignored. We weren't having an argument, it turned out. We were having a fight. Typically, it was a fight about money and power, and we were losing.

That loss felt particularly acute to me because I'd recently come back from Bangladesh, which was then suffering its first acute crisis from drought. There I'd spent enough time as the storm to be hit by the wrong winds myself. But, though I got as sick as I ever with it, I got, I was healthy and well-fed and good, and I survived.

It was emotionally overpowering to

see people who were dying from the effects of climate change, as the storm, we would see were creating spread the *Arctic* despite attempts to slow down. And the people who were dying had done nothing to cause the problem. Versus no one in Bangladesh had a car. Most of them didn't have a light bulb.

I wanted to do something. But there was no real climate movement to join. Environmental groups were working on a variety of issues and climate experts were drawing up elaborate plans, which Washington, D.C., was ignoring. But there was no widespread activism, despite the many plans for individual responsibility — to stop driving SUVs, to eat more locally. I believed in those things, had done them, written about them and joined in efforts to persuade others. But I no longer believed those efforts were going to change the course. We needed some counterforce to the fossil-fuel industry dominating B.C.

Of course, writing to do something and knowing what to do are entirely different things. I was a writer living in the Vermont woods. I started talking to a small group of other writers in Addison County. What we knew of movement building came from

well-remembered vignettes of the civil-rights or anti-Vietnam War movements. What if we went up to Burlington and had a town on the steps of the federal building, demanding action on climate change?

We had a meeting. We got excited. Maybe getting arrested would be the spark that would ignite... something. But someone called the Burlington Police Department to ask what would happen if we carried out our daring plan. The answer was, nothing. Stay there as long as you want.

So we decided on a walk instead — a kind of pilgrimage. Walking seemed Vermontish. I was out an end to people I knew, and they forwarded it to people they knew. Meanwhile, the more practical members of our group figured out what we'd eat and where we'd sleep (three fields, for the most part). *The day*, and we met in the parking lot of the Robert Frost memorial in Egton — because Frost was our common point of reference was. And because it was five days' walk from Burlington.

Organizers always worry. Will anyone come? Enough people, that come to make our walk seem respectable, that risked about a hundred marchers, that first day down Route 128, through the lovely green, and then north on Route 7 to the Middlebury town square. There we gave some low-key speeches and drank lemonade.

The crowd stilled after over the next two days as we walked the back roads toward Vergennes, and then the shoulder of the highway through Ferrisburgh to Charlotte. For our group never became embarrassingly small. We marched a near collision with a milk truck in New Haven, and we had ample opportunity for long, long talks. In a world where things move ever more rapidly, still still stood — there was no need to act to the chase.

It was fun to see old friends and neighbors — and starting to meet six or seven young people from Middlebury College who came along for the ride. They were already doing strong climate organizing on campus and on some good stuff.

After a packed church service in Charlotte, we walked to Shelburne River, and the tribe was really gathering. Teams were put up across the fields for the first night. The next morning, when we struck camp and headed off on the last leg into Burlington, we had walked to an impressive 1,200 or so strong. Walking two or three others, we seemed like all the people of Vermont.

I remember then-representative Bernie Sanders (I-Ver.) meeting us at the edge of town, excited as much by the appearing as by the cause. And I remember the rally that followed, as most of Vermont's political candidates — including Republicans such as Martin Rasmussen, and Rich Tannen — signed a pledge to work to cut carbon emissions 80 percent by 2050. In those days, that was a radical idea.

I remember, too, making a story in the paper the next day speculating that those thousand Vermonters might have represented the largest demonstration against climate change in this country to date. That struck me. If we were in a fight with the richest industry on Earth, no wonder we were losing. We had the infrastructure for a movement — scientists, policy makers, economists. We just didn't have the actual movement.

But our small band of engineers was courageous nonetheless. It had occurred to me as we walked that if a thousand people in a single place were what we could muster at the moment, then we should try and do it in a lot of places all at once. Changing your own light bulbs was too small to really matter. Data, organizing Vermont was too small to really matter but organizing every small place on the planet might do the trick.

Instead of the standard model — march on Washington in huge numbers, which we did not yet have — we could instead do the equivalent of march on Bernadotte in a thousand places at once.

With the rise of the internet, the technology suddenly existed to run all these smaller outposts together into a bigger river. So those Midwestern students and I tested the model on our campus. The next spring, we managed to coordinate 1,800 simultaneous demonstrations in all 50 states. Each presented the same demand for 80 percent emissions cut — which then-senators Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton, who were both running for president, immediately endorsed.

Then we decided to do the same thing on a global scale and formed the nonprofit *350.org*. Our first worldwide day of action, in fall 2009, featured 3,208 rallies over the same weekend in 180 countries. We weren't as close as I had thought. Plenty of organizing was still away.

We didn't "organize" all these protests. It was more like a potluck supper, with everyone bringing what they had. CNN called it "the most widespread day of political action in the planet's history." It was not the biggest, by any means. Most of these rallies were small, and one — in war-torn Iraq — consisted of a single woman. And they took place underwater on deep coral reefs and atop the highest mountains in Antarctica, in farmers' fields and barns, in churches and mosques. And, since many participants immediately uploaded pictures to

the internet, we were able to show for the first time an outline of an honest-to-God global movement.

It's continued to grow ever since. We've now had rallies in every nation save North Korea. We've helped launch a divestment movement that has led endowments there to a collective \$1.6 trillion out of their fossil-fuel stocks. We've been in the forefront of the fight against the Keystone XL Pipeline. (It was successful not only because that pipe never got built but because it led to what one of our co-organizers called the "Keystonization" of nearly every other fossil-fuel project on the continent.)

When concerned individuals realized they weren't alone, they joined the climate-change battle with gusto, and then figured out brand-new battles to fight. (Right now, for instance, a great debate is taking place on the Standing Rock Sioux reservation in North Dakota, where Native Americans are fighting yet another pipeline.)

In the Paris Agreement last year, we finally saw some pledges of international action. And as the Democratic platform this spring, thanks to Sanders, a major American political party finally called climate change what it is — a crisis — and pledged to mobilize against it. We haven't won every fight, but the fact that there now is a fight is a big improvement.

Is it big enough? July 2016 was the hottest month for which we have records, and scientists suggested that it was probably the hottest month since the start of human civilization. The planet has suffered staggering losses of polar ice, extreme floods and fires seem like the new normal. We've seen the highest wind speeds ever measured and new diseases racing across the globe. Five years ago this week in Vermont, we experienced the destruction of Tropical Storm Irene. In the race with physics, we humans are falling behind. And I have looked myself plenty of times for not seeing far earlier what needed to be done.

The careful reader will notice I've not named any of the people. Vermonters who helped launch the climate-change movement — people I consider friends and heroes. There are a couple of reasons for this.

One, it's no great delight to be in the spotlight. I wrote earlier this year in the *New York Times* about the "brockers" hired by a right-wing political-action committee who now follow me in public and videotape

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## LOCALmatters

### Walk of Ages

any every move. The Internet, which has allowed us to separate on a vast scale, also allows us to realize how similar. This week, for instance, alongside the daily easy flow of email, a major right-wing website called me a "paleolithic thing" in the comments section (never read the comments!), writers asked if "McBride's persona [had] any children who love?" stating that I should be "out there under" and assuming that I was "a waste of good human DNA."

I wouldn't wish that kind of attention on any worst enemy; it can leave one tired before the day even begins.

The second and more important reason for not identifying individuals is that the movement isn't about any one of us. It took me a while to realize this. Filled with our early success, and hearing people call me

you with other small places to make a difference.

Of course, I'm under no illusion that everyone in this state agrees with me about everything. Wind power is a great example. Former Vermont state senator and environmentalist Peter Gelfand spoke in his gubernatorial campaign about the "insipidity" of people who were faced with wind turbines. I appreciated that love for place, but I also thought, *Amateur, relative.* I still went windmills down my house on Middlebury Gap, precisely because I've seen so much ugliness in so many quarters, and because I love the natural world, which is threatened by climate change.

In any event, I refuse to part with the pleasant illusion that most Vermonters care about the rest of the planet and are willing to take some responsibility for it. And I hope Vermonters are proud that



a great leader, I think I let my ego flourish. Yes, my constant traveling and talking helped to get a movement up and running. But a few years ago, the spotlight began to feel both wrong and counterproductive.

We don't have a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for the climate movement, and I think we're better off without one. Instead, we have thousands of leaders in thousands of places. That kind of resistance can get in the face of the fossil-fuel industry close to home, and then unite for big action when needed.

The most important leaders of this fight are those who live on the frontlines, people in indigenous communities around the world whose land is disappearing; people in cities blighted by pollution. To amplify those voices, to connect those struggles to stand behind people who are standing up — that has become my particular passion.

Though that work often draws me out of Vermont, I always take some of Vermont with me. Above all, I take the belief that small places matter, and that they can

their small state has played an onetime role in the movement to tackle our biggest problem ever.

In the end, I will name just one more: Josephine, born in August to one of those Middlebury students who helped to create a movement 50 years ago. We thought the search we began that day at Robert Frost's cabin would last a long weekend. It turns out to be a search that will stretch on for generations. We might get tired, but we can't stop, happy always for the company.

*Sil McCubbin is the author of many books, the latest of which is *On and Hence: The Education of an Unlikely Activist*, and is a cofounder of 500.org. He is also the Scherman Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College and lives in Rippon.*

### INFO

Learn more at [500.org](http://500.org) and [silsmcubbin.com](http://silsmcubbin.com).

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## Off message

EXCERPTS FROM THE BLOG

### Amid Turmoil, Sanders Launches Our Revolution

Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) launched a new political organization on August 24 devoted to electing progressive candidates "at every level" of government.

Speaking to some 200 supporters at Burlington's North End Studios, the former presidential candidate said he hoped that "hundreds of thousands of people" would join the new group called Our Revolution. It would immediately get to work supporting more than 100 candidates and seven-hundred industries this election cycle, he said.

"These are people who will be fighting at the grassroots level for change on their local school boards, in their city councils, in their state legislatures and other representatives in Washington," Sanders said.

According to Our Revolution executive director Sherman Jackson, the launch was welcomed by 2,800 house parties and 60,000 voters across the country. But the event was overshadowed by an unusually public staff revolt within the fledgling organization, as well as questions surrounding its legal status.

As Politics and Business First reported, at least eight employees quit Our Revolution prior to the launch after Sanders' former campaign manager, Jeff Weaver, was brought in to serve as the group's president. They complained that Weaver planned to raise money from wealthy donors and spend it on Sanders' ad campaigns, rather than organize a grassroots political movement.

"Those of us who resigned left because we felt the organization couldn't make good on Bernie's promise of taking the political revolution going under Jeff's leadership," Claire Sandberg, an organizer who worked for Sanders' presidential campaign and then Our Revolution, told NBC News. "Our campaign manager Jeff was a total disaster who linked Bernie's supporters with this embarrassing event."

According to multiple reports, Sanders' legal adviser is also over the organization after questions arose about its fundraising practices. As a 501(c)(4) nonprofit, Our Revolution is prohibited from accepting contributions from wealthy individuals, but as a staffing service, Sanders is limited on how much money he can raise for such an organization, as NBC News reported.

Sanders addressed the controversy only briefly, asserting that it would be run without his involvement.

"As a United States senator, I will not be directing or controlling Our Revolution," he told the *Atlantic* magazine. "But I have the utmost confidence that this leadership team and the board they've assembled share the progressive values we all hold. And I expect very big things from them and from all of you who join with them to carry the political revolution forward."

PAUL HENREZ

### Libertarian Presidential Candidate Johnson Stumps in Vermont



Mike Johnson, left, and John White

Income taxes and gun control — don't read into the death penalty, the department of Commerce, Homeland Security and local zoning ordinances.

So said Libertarian presidential hopeful Gary Johnson on campaign swing through South Burlington August 24 with running mate William Weld by his side.

The two former Republican governors — Johnson served two terms as governor of New Mexico and Weld was governor of Massachusetts — are both running for the Libertarian Party. They won both races in the 2012 Libertarian National Convention, simplifying the tax code and making government better by making less portions of it disappear.

"Want us to take government every single time," Johnson said. "Want us to, because we get better not worse."

A few hundred people were in open protest. "The First America Yet, You Say" and chanted loudly at the Greenway Burlington Hotel & Conference Center as Johnson eventually proposed to put government on a convocation diet in order to further the welfare of ordinary people.

Hours of support and local cheering broke out when Johnson explained that he would replace income and payroll taxes with a consumption tax that he said would fix up used money and lead to increased new jobs.

PHILIP WALSH



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# lifelines

OBITUARIES, VOWS, CELEBRATIONS

## OBITUARIES



**Melody Perocco**  
1942-2016, CHARLOTTE

Melody Perocco, 68, passed away on her daughter's birthday, August 27, at her home in Shelburne from complications of metastatic lung cancer.

She was predeceased by her father, Michael, in 1999. Melody was born on November 4, 1942, in Bronx, N.Y., to Dr. Michael and Mrs. Mary Perraro. She grew up in the Bronx and graduated with a Bachelor degree from Long Island University in Brookville and was notorious as one of the first female taxi drivers in NYC. She worked with theater companies in NYC, as well as Longview Playhouse of the Blue States and Theater for the New City as performer and lighting designer. Melody moved to Vermont in 1971, landing in the beautiful Rutland Kingdom, where she directed and produced theater and music. (lightyears-Cable Players, Ten Miles Shuffe Band). In 1987, she moved to Burlington to start a 20-year career at United Airlines as a customer service representative and manager and she

later addition to Shelburne when she then lived for the past 20 years. In retirement, she worked joyfully delivering Senior Days throughout the state in her Subaru and at the book office at the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts. She loved to play various games of poker and watch old black-and-white movies, could beat almost anyone at Solitaire, traveled extensively (Florida always being Andie, Italy and Australia), was never more full of love than when she sat one a preschooler in 2004, and was a longtime volunteer with the Bar Ingleside Chapter. Jazz Festival affectionately known as the "Jazzcarnival."

She is survived by her daughter Liane C. Perocco now-Liane Anderson-Mull and grandchildren Andrew Mull of Eastern senior rooms along the East Coast, and her large family of loving friends from across Vermont, the place she loved so much and called home. She was laid to rest with her passed family at the Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Northshire, VT, on Saturday, August 27. A local memorial service will be held in Vermont later this fall. Her family is thankful to the generous employees from the NHS Kingdom. Instead of flowers such as, we wish for donations in her memory to be made to the Burlington Discover Jazz Festival. Online condolences and more at [lifelines.sevendaysvt.com](http://lifelines.sevendaysvt.com).



**Jan N. Slusmon**  
1947-2016, BURLINGTON

The night after an evening to win the respect of the intelligent people and the affection of children. To care the appreciation of home and work.

To know the world is not better without his healthy child, a garden, a garden, or a realized social condition. To find the best in others.

To know the world is not better without his healthy child, a garden, a garden, or a realized social condition. To find the best in others.

To know that one life has breathed over because you lived thus, is a far finer satisfaction.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

Jan Slusmon died on August 22 with his wife, Ellen (Gunnerson) by his side.

Jan never failed to be generous to his friends for the many relationships and experiences he was able

to have during his life time including the experience he lived with cancer.

He always maintained an attitude of optimism and hope as he continued to do many of the things he loved. He remained devoted in great interests, most art and history. Maintained his study of Spanish and assessed a wealth of knowledge due to an incredible memory. He was truly a lifelong learner.

Jan was always profoundly peaceful and happy when he could spend days of quiet and solitude in his garden. During his final month, Jan felt blessed to have been able to spend meaningful time with a generosity of friends and family that stretched from his roots to now. All will miss his gentle soul, his keen intellect, his benevolent sense of humor and his kind and efforts to be of service to others and to his community.

Tyler to his sister Jan was a member of the professional and generosity of the staff and volunteers who lovingly cared for him at the Mount Mansfield Hospital.

We are especially grateful to the NHS for providing such a high standard of care to people who have been blessed the opportunity to live and their families with dignity, compassion and respect.

Ever present during this past year with selfless and loving support to both Jan and his wife were some amazing friends. A special thank you to Ruth, Heidi and Lori.

Anyone wishing to honor his memory is encouraged to make a small token. The

Vermont People House, c/o The NHS, 183 Pine Rd., Colchester, VT 05448-6405. There will be no formal service. At a later time, there will be a private family gathering for the enjoyment of his ashes.



**Anthony Griffith**  
1933-2016, MILTON

Anthony G. Griffith passed away just Friday on Sunday, August 28, 2016, at the Northwest Medical Center in St. Albans. Tony was born on September 28, 1933. He was predeceased by his parents, Gerald and Margie Griffith, and his brothers, Les and Dale Griffith, and sister Margale Wood. Tony was a longtime resident of Milton, where he was

an active member of the Milton United Church and the Milton Senior Center. For several years he helped to care for his father-in-law in their home. Tony was an outgoing, kind and gentle man. He loved talking with people and was always quick with a joke, even on one of his brother-in-laws' expressions. He made friends easily and was beloved by anyone who got to know him. Tony worked for many years in a manufacturing plant in Milford, Conn., until retiring and moving to Vermont.

He is survived by his sons and daughters, Jonathan Wood and his wife, Kelly of Jeffersonville; Bronwyn Wood and her husband, Gary of Lexington; Vir Griffith and his brother, Gerth Griffith of Andover, Texas; and Alexander and his wife, Jay of O'Fallon, Wash. For the last few years, Tony was a resident of the St. Albans Health and Rehabilitation Center.

The family would like to thank the staff for their outstanding care. Many thanks to all who bring friends and friends who truly enriched his life and became his family.

There will be no service in lieu of flowers or contributions can be made to the Milton Senior Center, 65 Middle Rd., Milton, VT 05468.

## Want to memorialize a loved one in Seven Days?

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## Feedback 497

Moons Plan, the city plans a Perlans Park expansion to provide an additional 120-foot marine and a more-entertainment structure.

Why do most waterfront developments exist to lure boat owners? What about the citizens of Burlington with small fishing boats? Currently there are ramps at Perlans Park and the Coast Guard station serving neighborhood boats, but access is not free at either. Most towns along Lake Champlain have free public launches. The closest launch is free to Burlington at Lake Park in Colchester, which provides limited access to the main lake for small boats, as can be seen from the low water currently in the river delta. The Millers Bay launch does not serve as a practical launch site for small boat owners wanting to access the main lake.

Fish & Wildlife Department funds will be used for the Perlans Park marina expansion, which will create on new publicly accessible structures. Wouldn't the funds be used to provide free access for undesirable boats? Why does the City of Burlington not have free public launches for small boats to launch, so do most Vermont towns along Lake Champlain?

Phil Bens  
BURLINGTON

## PARTY POPPERS

Terr Haffenbeck's piece last week was pessimistic ("Vermont's Progressives and Democrats Have Grown Ties," August 30). I will not vote for a Prog, no matter the issue, simply because I am not one. I am a Democrat. I reject the notion of Prog or independent running in the Democratic primary as a matter of simple honesty. If a candidate is not a member of a particular party, he/she should not enter that primary, because it is dishonest to state that you are not run anyway. But it is far worse than simple dishonesty to deceive the voters of a primary, because voters

is a primary expect the winner to run as a member of their party in the November general election.

The worst offense is to deceive primary voters and then refuse to run as that party's general election. Why? Because the most important function of a political party is to nominate its best candidate, and failure to nominate is an abdication of this basic responsibility. A party should have the legal right in this case to replace the deceptive candidate.

Prog and independents running in the Democratic primary is simply recognition they cannot win on their own and want the cover of the Democratic Party organization, vote lists and financial support. My compliments to Sen. Ginny Lyons and the other Democratic candidates who refused the GOP write-in nomination. They're honest!

Sam Miller  
WATTSVILLE

## NO PG-PG

I was disturbed by the addition of the PG to PG-FR when I saw it two weeks ago in News Days. I had hoped that maybe it was a one-time addition, but my fears to the contrary were confirmed this week when I saw the column yet again. Columns like that and publications such as News Mountain Magazine seem to suggest that people who get arrested are bad and different from the rest of us, and that making light of their situation is OK and funny. If that's the case, why don't we just bring back the inclusion as their humiliation is complete? We should be better than this. If an arrest is a newsworthy, write a complete and informative article about it. Don't try to make people with a "sample of citizen abuse" look like "a sample of citizen abuse."

Kelvin Barron  
WATTSVILLE

## POUNDING PAST

[Re "Do Not Be French," August 30] French language classes would be a wonderful and practical offering, considering our proximity to Quebec, yet at most high schools French is not even offered. Even more disturbing is that Spanish is mandatory in many high schools. Who is behind the push for mandatory Spanish in Vermont schools, and why?

Catherine Herrin  
ANDOVER

## MORE SCIENCE

Thank you, Paul Hinz, for many on-the-spot commentaries that have helped to give a useful newspaper. With [Bar Gore, August 24], you have put yourself back into the realm of "shoot-em-the-bip" news commentators who clearly haven't done sufficient homework. Your derivation of Republican gubernatorial candidate Phil Scott's attempts to place himself squarely on the issue of climate change is misguided.

This is a complex issue, and Scott is closer to being correct than anyone

else in the Vermont political. No, "it doesn't matter" if climate change is man-made or not, because the man-made contribution is so insignificant that it doesn't matter. More importantly, as Art Wolf explained recently in the Burlington Free Press, the Vermont Energy Plan is "unscientific." We need more that we are doing well leaders down and really understand the science and economics from a Vermont perspective before continuing.

Also, you should understand that the "99 percent of the world's scientists" has long ago been thoroughly discredited. People that refer to it only display their ignorance. Here is some help.

Read 1. The Neglected Sun by Dr. Fritz Valenichin; 2. The Great Global Warming Hoax by Dr. Roy Spencer; and 3. The Suburban Cosmopolis of Climate Science by Dr. Van Riel. All of these are highly respected scientists.

In addition, the well-documented alternative energy experiences in Germany and Denmark should be a warning to us and for us to learn from.

Leslie Allen  
JERICHO

## SAVE OUR LIBRARIES

The trend to cut funding from school libraries is deeply troubling, especially when considering the positive influence school libraries have on student success [Re GE Messages, "Despite Modestness, No Deal on Contract for Burlington Teachers," August 17].

At least 60 studies show that student achievement is higher in schools with full-time certified school librarians. Research, technology and literacy are dependent on access to school libraries and trained professional librarians. Limiting access to all students, but especially disadvantaged students who do not have access to technology at home or the ability to visit a public library.

When we cut library funds, we hurt the students who need these services most. This also ties to the future of democracy, since these students are less likely to have the tools to research information, judge the quality of information or utilize libraries in their adult lives. Access to information is the key to educational success in our society, which is why it is key to successful careers and successful citizens.

As a children's book author, I've had the opportunity to visit school libraries all over Vermont, and it is clear that libraries are the heart of the school. After meeting colleagues with our sun last spring, it was clear this is also the case at colleges and universities. By providing resources to our young students, we prepare them for the school district will beyond its divisions.

Jo Knowles  
HARTLAND





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PAGE  
32

## Page 32: Short Stops in Five Volumes

BY HANGOT HARRISON

**S**ince *Page 32* writers can't possibly read, teach, less articles, the number of books that arrive is a steady stream by post, email and, in one memorable case, a bowl of wild flowers. So this monthly feature, "Page 32" is our way of introducing you to five books by Vermont authors. To do that, we'll contextualize each book just a little, and quote a single representative sentence from, yes, page 32.

Inclusion here implies neither approval nor disfavor on our part, but simply lists are a bunch of books, arranged alphabetically by authors' names, that *Seven Days* readers might like to know about.



### *Adirondack Archangels: Guardians of the High Peaks*

Edited by Christine Bourgeois and Alex Rubin. Foreword by Bill McKibben. Adirondack Mountain Club. 304 pages. \$24.95.

"There is an inner peace, an harmonic, to be gained in all wilderness experiences everywhere, but none exceed the intensity of contentment, of feeling at-home-at last, as when quietly witnessing the grandeur of creation from atop a high Adirondack summit."

Our page 32 passage comes from the essay "The Four Rewards of Visiting Alpine Summits" by Edwin H. Renshield (1824-2010), to whom this hefty, photo-enhanced anthology pays tribute. A formidable climber with a passion for preserving natural ecosystems, Renshield inspired the creation of the Adirondack High Peaks Summit Steward Program, which all proceeds from this book help fund. Other essays address the future of the Adirondack Park and the organizations striving to maintain it. "Forever wild" Writer **ALL HARRISON** is a brief foreword, "This circle of responsibility has protected the Adirondacks far well more than a century now, and it's our job to keep it going."



### *The Dowser's Legacy: A Story of Friendship*

David T. Kolk. The CowPie Press. 40 pages. \$5.95.

"I found myself talking to the mountain, even calling out his name with the expectation of seeing something in the clouds next to the summit, but nothing happened."

Described as a fact-based fiction, this slim volume chronicles the friendship between its author and Bryan Hicks, his now-deceased neighbor in rural Colchester, NJ. An old-timer who lived off the grid, Hicks taught city refugees *how to make to chop wood, forecast the weather and dance* — or "watch for water" as he called it. The book pays tribute to this wise and colorful character, and the author's affection for him is evident on every page. While Kolk (who now lives in Essex Junction) has the book listed at retailers, he notes in an accompanying letter that he hopes to distribute it gratis as long as he can afford to print copies. "Anyone who wants a copy, I merely give them one."



### *The Flower Eater*

M. Laffin. Archway Publishing. 368 pages. \$25.99.

"In turn, each high-priestess spoke a line, their voices ringing out, one-by-one from the darkness of the circular tower in a downward spiral until the last of the night when had spoken."

In this romantic fantasy novel from Winsted author **M. Laffin**, a young woman preparing to enter a chaotic order of priestesses finds herself tempted by the flash of a well-built blacksmith. Her conflict isn't simply the classic one between love and duty — rather, she precariously longs to master the power wielded by the order. The novel often has the general languor of a Macbeth Purush painting, which its dreamlike setting also evokes. But it takes unexpected and intriguing turns, as the heroine eventually bids herself "move [all] psychic energies which are closed to other mortals."

BOOKS



**Thesaurus of Separation**

Tim May: Phoenix Publishing, \$40  
pages: 154-95

"My suicide never came back and forth in my head. It turns like an ambulance lost in the streets." (From "Talking to the Dead")

**THE MAYO** is a mental health worker at the Bennington Retreat and a poet with a Bennington College MFA and a raft of publications to his name. This one, from Montreal-based Phoenix Publishing, addresses subjects as diverse as "Working in Boston," and "Tracing in God's Country" (In his spare time, Mayo studies at Bennington's New England Center for Crisis Arts. "Now in my mid-thirties / ... I've taken up yoga," he writes in the latter poem.) Throughout these poems, Mayo's deceptively simple fiction combines with his talent for evocative phrasing to lure us into flailing confrontations with grief, disappointment and loss. This is a book that challenges us to look beneath our own words, probing the silences they conceal. In "Wards," Mayo writes of a child who learns to express himself only by sacrificing an imaginary friend who remains without speech. "There were no words for him, no stone, / no nothing of mine with all its / attendant grunting and attitudes."



**Mehuron's Supermarket  
75th Anniversary:  
A Hometown  
Independent  
Supermarket**

Mary K. Meen Mehuron, self-published  
59 pages, \$12, available at Mehuron's  
Supermarket, 10 West Street

"Although I was born in Dorchester, Massachusetts, I spent most of my given life nearby in Lynn, a city of one hundred thousand people of many nationalities and races."

The above is a quote from Irene Walks Mehuron, one of the founders of Walks's venerable supermarket. In the early 1950s, she came to the Vermont town to teach high school and soon married Allen Mehuron, whose father, Elmer, had opened the store in 1941. Authored by a member of the store's generation to own and operate the market, this history traces the Mehuron family from Mapleflower times to the present, showcasing color photos and lively anecdotes about the store's early days. In the 1940s, we learn, rural Vermonters greeted grocery deliveries with great excitement—even the cardboard boxes were a treat for the children, who used them to fashion "tents and space capsules." ☺

Contact: mayo@surwindyart.com

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# Burlington Muralist Takes Off on a 10-City Painting Tour

BY PAMELA POLSTON

**P**erched high in her bucket truck and sponsored with paint, **MARY LACY** has become a familiar figure in Burlington, one who has quite literally made a mark on the city. While her debut paintings of the **HUMAN PLANE**, other murals line boldly in public view: the hummingbird on a brick wall at College and St. Paul streets; the brilliantly colored abstractions on a pair of silos at **HEAVEN'S GATE**. Lacy has even embellished a recycling container with her signature trailblazer style.

Now the Jericho native is taking her paints on the road. In a few weeks, Lacy will begin a 10-city mural tour with the help-of-a sponsorship from paint company Benjamin Moore. "I'm driving my bucket truck across the U.S.," she says. "It's always been my dream since I bought it."

Of course, she's not just driving it; she's doing her homework, reaching out to

arts organizations in those 10 cities. The tour begins in New York City, where she will contribute to a mural series about climate-threatened birds that's already in process through the National Audubon Society and Garlick...gallery in Hudson. Her target is a five-story brick building at 180th and Amsterdam.

"That will be the biggest one of the year for me," says Lacy, who will need to rent another bucket truck to reach the fifth story. The project has previously covered urban businesses roll down after closing time — with paintings of birds.

"They'll have a big existing audience," Lacy says of the murals. She notes that, on this paint job, former Burlington College adjunct professor **DAVID HOFFMAN** — who is also a seasoned Broadway scenic artist — will lead a hand.

Lacy doesn't know exactly what she's going to paint in the "growing arts district" of Chelsea, even. But she's been

in touch with an entrepreneur named Devon Wells, whose "homegrown arts movement" consists of buying abandoned buildings and giving them a makeover. Lacy's father, **DAVID LACY**, is also involved in that project, she reveals. Her target building is one that already houses art studios and a performance space.

Next, the artist will head south, to projects in both Greenville and Greenwood, Miss., and in Savannah, Ga. ("That's up in Thanksgiving," Lacy notes. "Then I'll come home for a month.")

After the holidays, she'll depart for locations in New Orleans and New Iberia, La., Austin, Texas, and Santa Monica, Calif. Finally, "I'm hoping to finish in San Francisco, because it's where I learned painting," she says.

Lacy admits she's "in awe of the opportunity" to paint in locales across the country. "It makes me appreciate sometimes," adds the 35-year-old. "I also think it's precious of the communities to



Mary Lacy painting silos at Heaven's Gate

welcome me — rather than [asking], what can I bring to them.

Lacy expects to continue focusing on animals and says she can look to the murals by depicting native creatures. "I'm really passionate about environmental messaging," she says. "I've walked really hard to develop [art about] the natural world."

Lacy returns on September 18. ☺

Contact: pamelap@vermontpost.com

## INFO

Learn more at [marylacyart.com](http://marylacyart.com)

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## ARTS ON THE MOVE

In recent weeks, two more layers of the Burlington arts community—Burlington City Arts and Generator—have furthered their plans to vacate Memorial Auditorium by the end of the year. The 1927 building has been home to BCA's play and print studios and classrooms since their inception in the late '80s, as well as to Generator since the maker space's opening in 2014. Both organizations will transition to leased spaces in the South End Arts District: BCA at 406 Pine Street and Generator at 40 Seirs Lane.

BCA has signed a lease with **SCOP FARMELL** of Farmell Vending, launching the process of adapting the approximately 1,000-square-foot former industrial space into new classrooms. Executive director **ROBERT KRAFT** commented by phone, "We've been able to get the contract through city council to hire **TRACERDAKINS ARCHITECTURE + INTERIORS INC.** and we're in the design phase right now."

For the first time, all of BCA's education spaces will be under one

roof. The photography studio, currently housed in the basement of **INCUBATOR**, will also be relocated to the new Pine Street location.

While the City of Burlington will pay the cost of the lease, Kraft said that BCA is beginning a capital campaign to support the move. Besides funds for regular programming, BCA hopes to raise an additional \$750,000. Kraft noted that the organization aims to open an Pine Street as soon as possible after classes at Memorial end in December.

For its part, Generator will lease an 8,540-square-foot warehouse space from Champlain College for three to eight years. According to the maker space's website, "Generator will miss the advantages of a direct partnership with the City as well as a central location." But communications coordinator **Annika Rundberg** noted a plus side of the move: The new space can accommodate more member studios. Free registration for those will begin soon, Rundberg said.

Generator will close for the month of December with plans to reopen in



The future home of Burlington City Arts studios.

its Seirs Lane location on January 2. Earlier this year, board chair **Michael Metz** announced a capital campaign to support the move, according to the website: two thirds of the \$300,000 goal had been raised as of July 26.

What about Memorial Auditorium? "My aspiration will be that we find the highest and best use for the building," Kraft said. She imagines a public-private partnership that will allow for its continued use.

"There's so many memories tied to

this building and its public service role," Kraft added. "It's the largest civic space that we have in Burlington. Nothing is permanent, and things will change. But if this isn't going to be that kind of gathering space, where will that be for the community?"

**RACHEL ELIZABETH JONES**

### INFO

Learn more at [burlingtoncityarts.org](http://burlingtoncityarts.org) and [generatorvt.com](http://generatorvt.com).

# Calling All Artists

City Market is seeking artists and craft persons for three public mural projects at our new South End store (opening in 2017!)

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# WTF? Why Is a Hollywood Actor Representing Garcia's Tobacco Shop?

**A**ctor Edward James Olmos' earliest Internet Movie Database billing is "Julius in *Batman Uncredited?*" in the 1974 blockbuster film *Batman*. From that modest appearance, he went on to increasingly larger roles, including an Academy Award-nominated performance in 1993's *Stand and Deliver*. Some may remember his memorable turn in *Blade Runner*, his run on the reimagined "Baltimore Gableton" as his character *El Marito Carrillo* in the 1996 TV show "Miami Vice."

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Olmos has had a career that in many ways is defined by his Mexican heritage. The struggles of being poor and brown are also reflected in his 1992 directorial debut, *American Me*, a crime drama about gang life in L.A. Olmos strongly identifies as an activist. An entire section of his website is dedicated to advocacy for such efforts as the gang rehabilitation project *Honeychey Industries*.

All this seems a far cry from the Green Mountain State. So what is an apparent likeness of Olmos doing on a mural celebrating Vermont history?

"Everyone Loves a Parade" is the title of the mural created by Canadian artist Pierre Hardy and located in Leahy Way, aka the alleyway that connects Burlington's Church Street to the parking garage. It features a plump, pale-skinned professor of past and present historical figures, Isaac 17th-century explorer Samuel de Champlain to rockstar Bruce Springsteen to Burlington's beloved "Hot Dog Lady," Lou Bodoley.

Near the beginning of the parade, flanked by Burlington-born intellectual John Dewey and 28th American president Chester A. Arthur, is the Edward James Olmos doppelgänger. Looking dapper, he profiles cigars from a box bearing the Garcia's Tobacco Shop logo WTF?

Current Garcia's owner Fred Palatino purchased the shop from founding owner Arnold Marsh in the 1990s, when it was made clear it was called the Burlington Town Center



Detail of 'Everyone Loves a Parade' by Pierre Hardy

The logo represented Garcia as a man-touched man with a broad-brimmed hat, holding a cigar—and looking exactly like Olmos. A small blurb on Garcia's website says, "Who is Mr. Garcia?" and answers, "Mr. Garcia, the famous face of the tobacco shop, is a lover of fine tobacco and a true cigar aficionado."

Receipt, as Palatino confirmed by phone, "There never was a Mr. Garcia. The Garcia guy was just a concept that the original owner came up with." Marsh could not be reached for comment.

Colchester branding professional David Smith recalled by phone that, in the '80s, his late wife did calligraphy for the Garcia's logo. At that point, he said, the mysterious likeness of Olmos was already in place.

In 2003, Palatino moved the store to its current Church Street location, where it endures as a Marketplace staple, catering to locals, tourists and the odd artist who needs a cigar box or smokes. One block north, "Everyone Loves a Parade" has been in perpetual procession since its completion in 2012.

The mural project was commissioned in 2009 by the Church Street Marketplace Commission and spearheaded by Robert Palmer, then owner of Leahy's Bar & Cafe. It was intended to commemorate the quadricentennial of Champlain's "discovery" of the lake. The unveiling coincided with the 30th anniversary of the Church Street Marketplace itself.

A committee selected Hardy from 15 finalists in 2009. The 124-foot-by-16-foot painting came with a price tag of \$100,000. That sum was raised with the help of local business owners, whom the city's Church Street Marketplace Department invited to become sponsors. The group worked with individual contributors and Hardy to fashion their businesses' presence within the mural, with a larger donation resulting in "more real estate" (such as a bill storefront), according to executive director Ben Redmond.

Palatino opted for a character holding a Garcia's cigar box. To execute this image, however, Hardy needed a model. Since Palatino declined to be immortalized on the face of the shop, the artist turned to logs.

"People have always said our logo looks like Edward James Olmos," assistant manager Jerome Benadette commented during a recent visit to the shop. "[Hardy] pointed that out, as well. He just ran with it, I guess."

Palatino confirmed, "Hardy was the one who came up with the Edward James Olmos idea. I said, 'Shaz!' Hardy could not be reached for comment."

And that was that. Through the serendipity of an innately ethnic proprietor, a well-known Cheshire actor, and a sponsored public art project, Olmos has woefully found a permanent home in Burlington. And, by extension, in Vermont history ☺

## INFO

Garcia's Tobacco Shop, 67 Church Street, in Burlington. [garciasburlington.com](http://garciasburlington.com)

## Dear Cecil,

My blood type is A negative. I've heard this can cause pregnancy issues, so I googled "Rh-negative blood" and ran across a bunch of weirdo sites with "theories" about the origin of negative blood types and some online communities with seriously racist undertones. Where did all this crazy mythology surrounding blood types come from?

Katrina



That sure is some otherworld of dodgy distills you inadvertently splunked into. Rh-negative is a place you'll want to find yourself without spending another software, an airtight pop-up blocker and, ideally, a strong stomach. Many folks, concerning Rh-negative blood, look louder enough in your search results but when clicked release a flood of widespread theories about ethnic miscegenation, blood-type-based dating tips and efforts to trace your ancestry back to extraterrestrial, angels or aliens.

Various outburst rationalists, bless 'em all, have labored above and beyond to debunk this stuff. But I'll go out on a limb here and assume that none of my readers actually suspects that some ready Rh-negative grandpa, Issued, as you say, the question is where these crypto-benightedists emerged from and what their deal is. On examination, they generally seem to be people who had

certain theories about how the world worked long before they learned of Rh negativity. And there? Well, they seethed blood.

Now, blood can seem like a loaded concept, I guess — as one of life's symbols of tribal identity, bearer of sinners, etc. — as maybe even the otherwise level-headed get weird about it sometimes. But come on — this is science. The term

"Rh factor" is routinely used to refer to the presence of a certain protein, the R antigen, on the surface of an individual's red blood cells. If you've got it — and most of us do — you're Rh-positive. The slight minority of humans without? Rh-negative. It's always good to know your blood type, but particularly when you're pregnant. Things can get tricky when an Rh-negative mother is carrying an Rh-positive fetus — if she's been exposed to Rh-positive blood before (typically via a prior pregnancy), she'll produce antibodies that can attack her hapless kiddo like it's an infection.

As with most of our species' biological oddities, scientists believe that Rh-negative blood initially resulted from a DNA mutation that eventually served some sort of evolutionary purpose that research hasn't quite yet nailed down. Having the gene for Rh negativity seems to improve resistance to the parasitic condition called toxoplasmosis, which may hint at an answer, but no one knows for sure.

We *do* know for sure: The magic words that will forever soothe usurious visions of outcasts from darker cyberspace. Some try to tell you that the children of the Nephilim, an antediluvian race of fallen angels and/or giants casually mentioned in Genesis, still walk among us — yet still know them by their Rh-negative blood. Others will list the "reptilian" physical characteristics Rh-negative folks possess, including extra vertebrae and lower-than-normal body temperature. Yet others want to talk about the

All-negative blood supposedly found on the Shroud of Turin. But two major sets of apocalyptic crises stand out, each armed with their own theories about Rh negativity.

The first one is relatively benign, of a type familiar to all listeners against paradoxicalness: those who for more than half a century have recast the divine beings of the world's religions as "ancient astronauts," creating extraterrestrials with constructing the pyramids and inspiring the stone heads of Easter Island. You've seen their paperback bible in thrift stores or on your favorite hippie uncle's bookshelf: *Chambers of the Gods?* by Erich von Däniken. (Who, the blood-type line eventually came, was Rh-negative himself?) But for some scholars of this ilk, ideas weren't here just to jump-start our confusion. They manifested us on a cellular level, creating, according to UFO-centric author Nick Redfern, "a close race to distillify some gold." The evidence? You guessed it: Rh-negative blood.

You're more likely, though, to encounter the suggestion that Rh-negative blood makes its possessor superior to others. Sometimes this leads to charming kookiness — the Basque people have an extraordinarily high Rh-negative rate of 25 to 35

percent, which estimates that strong subsets of Basques who believe them to be a mixed race that built Stonehenge and traveled regularly to North America centuries before the age of exploration.

Unfortunately, this viewpoint attracts far sadder sorts, too. Forever on the lookout for some minor genetic distinction between ethnicities to bolster their worldviews, certain white supremacists are tickled at a curious-sounding point about the fact that about 15 percent of people of European descent will tend to be Rh-negative, while less than one percent of Africans, Asians and Native Americans will. Thus, predictably, you'll see assertions that Rh-negatives have a higher IQ and that the first-blended Caucasians of Northern Europeans were created by the mutation. Sorry for enough into the crack, and you'll find "proof" that Jesus was Scandinavian — with All-negative blood, such.

Back here is reality: Per got good news for Rh-negative moms-to-be. As long as you discuss potential Rh-factor issues with your ob-gyn early enough, complications can usually be avoided. If, however, your doc mentions anything about ancient astronauts or Nephilim, make sure you get a second opinion.

### INFO

If there something you need to get straight? Call Cecil Adams to deliver the Straight Dope on any topic. Send questions to Cecil via [straightdope.com](mailto:straightdope.com) or write him c/o Chicago Reader, 350-M Dearborn, Chicago 60654.



**P**enny didn't get up around 10 a.m. on June 18, 2015, and noticed that neither the air conditioner nor the fan was working in the old Sean's bedroom. She peered inside the door, where she

It wasn't unusual for Sean, 22, powerful built 165 brother Dennis in Huntington. They would sometimes stay up all night playing video games or hanging around. But Sean didn't always remember to call or text his mom.

She felt a wrench in her heart, asking, "Where are you, Sean?"

Dennis, 24, didn't pick up his phone, either. After two hours of worrying, Penny drove with her husband, Jerry, to Dennis' place on Ward Street in Huntington's Old North End. Initially, they were relieved to discover Sean's car parked out front and the porch light on. They figured their boys had probably just overslept.

But when they opened the door to the screened-in front porch, the Thibaults found both sons, slumped over within a few feet of each other. Their bodies were blue. Penny and Jerry tried to revive the two, shaking them, pounding their backs, trying to get them to breathe. A FedEx driver making deliveries nearby heard the parents' screams and called 911.

Had they been shot, or stabbed? Penny remembers thinking, but there was no blood. Maybe it was carbon monoxide poisoning? But both boys were outside.

An officer who later arrived told the Thibaults mother-of-death: "Well, it's clearly an overdose of heroin." "I almost slipped him in the face," Penny told seven days later.

She never suspected that her sons took drugs. Dennis and Sean had looked healthy. They had good, full-time jobs and never missed a day of work or a family gathering. Neither had ever been arrested or hooked on a struggle with drug use.

Fourteen months later, their sudden deaths make no more sense to Penny. The only thing that seems clear to her is that the dealer who sold her sons heroin lived with festering — a dispute so toxic more powerful than heroin — should be held responsible for their deaths and sent to prison for a long, long time.

The Thibaults waited more than a year for authorization to charge the dealer they believe sold their sons the drugs. Earlier that month, he pleaded guilty to a drug charge after reaching a plea agreement in U.S. District Court that effectively granted him immunity for any

# Brothers' Keeper

A mother wants a drug dealer to be held responsible for the overdose deaths of her two sons

BY MARK DAVIS



deaths he may have caused. There was no mention of Sean or Dennis.

A few hours later, Penny sent a long, anguished e-mail to numerous Vermont media outlets, chronicling her own discoveries and frustrations. It was a detailed account of her quest for justice. "Please present my story to the public," she wrote. "Please, help me."

"I know my boys aren't innocent in all this," Penny said in an interview. "My boys bear a certain responsibility... I don't think there's any question they've been held accountable, but they're not the only ones involved, and I don't know any justice that targets only half of those responsible."

## Two Boys

Penny Beauregard and Jerry Thibault met in Burlington when she was just 11. They eventually married and settled in Richmond, where they raised three boys: Gerald, the eldest, later moved to Seattle, while Sean and Dennis stayed closer to home.

There was the house where all the neighborhood kids hung out. But the Thibaults had family adventures, too. They went hunting together and attended concerts and ballgames. Jerry made enough money as a machinist to afford camping trips to Lake George, N.Y., and Hampton Beach, N.H., during which the boys competed to see who could roast the perfect marshmallow.

As teenagers, Sean and Dennis held jobs at Mexico Grill & Conchos. They graduated from Mt. Mansfield Union High School within a year of each other and unimpressively started careers.

Although inseparable, the boys couldn't have been more different in their interests and temperaments.

Mellow Dennis loved watching the F-16 fighter jets based at Burlington International Airport. He talked excitedly about space travel and the possibility that humans could eventually reach Mars. A football fan, he put into computers and taught out and paid for training that landed him an IT job at Husky Injection Molding Systems, a plastics manufacturer in Milton.

He never turned down a friend's request to fix a computer or any other electronic device and usually refused anything but a nominal payment.

"Dennis was just a big, really nice," his aunt, Cécile Barreault, said. "Always there, always kind, always loving, always smiling."

Sean was always, or at least appeared to be, that very responsible who didn't know him. Family members called him the "little prince" for his spirited, sometimes-reckless personality, and joked about the dangers of provoking him. A history buff and heavy-metal music fan, he once built a basement-level shield in shop class and later bought a *Gold Wind* record for \$100.

Sean followed in his father's footsteps as a machinist. For a few years, they worked together at Whetstone Manufacturing in Williston before the younger Thibault moved on to Milton-based Remond, which makes car parts and other equipment.

"Sean makes parts, runs the machine, programs it — Sean could do anything," Jerry Thibault said. "He had a mathematical mind. All of us Thibaults do."

Dennis left home in his early twenties and eventually found an apartment on Leahy Ward Street. Sean chose



## I can't bring my sons back. But I don't want their deaths to be in vain.

PENNY THIBAUT

to live at home, which guaranteed home-cooked meals, free laundry and steady companionship. According to his mom, he used to come home from work, wrestle with his dad and sit, "What's for dinner?"

Just two weeks before their deaths, the boys joined the extended family club for a party in memory of their deceased grandmother. During the festivities, Dennis and Sean taught their young cousins to play pool. Relatives recalled their entertaining brotherly banter. Marlene screamed out.

"They weren't opiate addicts — I didn't think," Barreault said. "But what does an opiate addict look like? A doctor, a lawyer, a husband, a wife, your best friend — your nephew?"

In this case, it might have been a roommate. Thibault family members didn't discover until after the brothers died that Burlington police had twice been called to Dennis' address for heroin overdoses, and neighbors had complained repeatedly about suspicious activity on the property. In December 2010, the cops raided the place and arrested a man living there. They later charged him with selling heroin.

Neither Dennis nor Sean was mentioned in subsequent media accounts of the bust.

Her own research since has led Penny to believe her sons were at least dabbling in drugs at that time. Their friends from Richmond told her of parties involving prescription meds. She said she has medical records that indicate Sean mentioned a possible opiate problem to his doctor as early as 2005. But there's no evidence that he ever got treatment for it.

## Deadly Deals

It's been more than two years since Gov. Peter Shumlin devoted his entire State of the State address to Vermont's opiate "crisis." Since then, the problem has gotten measurably worse. The state caused a record 15 fatal overdoses last year, and that number is on pace to increase in 2016.

In response, the state has refashioned how it views drug users. The Department of Health has revamped and expanded addiction treatment options. The judiciary has tried to create court programs to help addicts instead of punishing them. Law enforcement and health officials have bought thousands of doses of the opiate-reversing drug Naloxone. Last week, Shumlin announced that Vermont pharmacies would be allowed to sell the drug without a prescription.

But as the state has taken a greater approach to drug addicts, officials have urged a tougher one in regard to drug dealers, particularly those who sell substances that are toxic to overdose.

In Bennington County, prosecutors took the unusual step of charging a drug dealer with second-degree murder after he allegedly sold heroin laced with fentanyl to a man who fatally overdosed. The February decision to file the murder charge against Trevor Shepard may be unprecedented in Vermont. It was based on evidence that Shepard had previously warned customers

## Brothers' Keeper 2011

that the heroin could include fentanyl, Seven Days reported earlier this year.

Another, seldom-used statute is also available to prosecutors: Since 2005, Vermont has specifically outlawed disposing an illegal drug with death resulting and gives the offense a two- to 10-year prison sentence.

In late July, Vermont State Police used it against a Groton man, 31-year-old John Fawcett III, when one of his alleged customers was found dead in Fawcett's home. Fawcett had been arrested in April in Massachusetts after troops allegedly found him with a "large amount" of heroin during a traffic stop.

In December, the U.S. Attorney's Office finished the federal version of the death-murdering law against two Brooklyn men, Gary Deluca and Sharif Cargis. They were accused of selling fentanyl to a 54-year-old South Burlington man who fatally overdosed in July 2014, according to federal court documents. Deluca and Cargis are also facing charges of engaging in a conspiracy to sell cocaine and heroin in Vermont and engaging in sex trafficking.

Other states are acting more aggressively than Vermont in targeting dealers connected to overdoses.

In December, the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office announced an initiative to mount more crackdowns as major crimes and has pursued at least 40 investigations. The office has taught local police to treat overdose scenes as murder scenes and asked state law-enforcers to free up funds for a specialized overdose prosecutor.

New Jersey launched a similar program, while lawmakers in West Virginia, Pennsylvania and New York pushed laws specifically targeting dealers connected to fatal overdoses.

"The goal is that some of them will think twice about the decisions that they are making and no longer sell drugs," Assistant New Hampshire Attorney General James Vern told the *Guardian*. "Some, of course, won't. Some, of course, will. You hear this buzzword, 'You can't arrest your way out of the problem.' However, you have to look at these people who are dealing drugs and trafficking, and you have to hold them accountable."

## A Matter of Intent

Not everyone in the legal community wants to lock up peddlers of product that causes overdoses.

"The problem is, you have independent, villainous acts, one part of the

case, and why then is the seller the responsible party for the subsequent death?" Vermont Law School professor Robert Boyd asked rhetorically. "If someone sells me a soup-up motorcycle and I roll myself on it, or a handgun and I kill myself, are they responsible for it? Probably not. Someone sells me a highly dangerous substance and I use it in the manner that I intended to use it, are they responsible for my death? We seem to say 'yes' in the drug context."

In the rhetoric of looming drug deaths, many hear echoes of failed "tough on crime" strategies that have filled U.S. prisons to overflowing with nonviolent offenders. Twenty-five percent of the world's inmates are incarcerated in America.

Would a heroin dealer, who the reality is already making decades in prison for simply selling the drug, really stop if the possible penalty were higher?

"The intention is palpable on our failure to solve this heroin epidemic, but if the last 30 to 40 years have taught us anything in terms of criminal justice, it's that harsher penalties don't deter conduct," Chittenden County State's Attorney T.J. Donovan said. "And I think the evidence is very strong on that point. I'm not sure passing a law that imposes more punitive consequences for folks who dispense or sell drugs is going to stop drug dealing."

Further complicating legal matters: Drug dealers, especially those who are based in Vermont and serve as middlemen between local customers and out-of-state networks, can defy easy stereotypes. Many are themselves desperate addicts who sell a little on the side to fund their own habits.

Also, the key witnesses may be dead, or may have used more than one dealer, making it difficult to pinpoint where the drugs came from.

"It's incredibly fact-specific," Donovan said. "It gets into the intent of the dispensing or sale of the drug. Did they know it was mixed with fentanyl? It's all about intent and knowledge."

Among the local law-enforcement officials who will likely have to grapple with the issue is Washington County State's Attorney Scott Williams. Over a six-day-outlet weekend, there was one overdose, including one death, from a batch of heroin suspected of containing fentanyl.

The investigation into who sold the seized drugs is ongoing.

Speaking generally, Williams said that unless there is clear evidence that a dealer knew his or her product would likely lead to an overdose, such as in the Kennington County case, he would be



Scott Williams, second from left, with coworkers



Scott Williams



Scott Williams, second from left, with coworkers

unwilling to seek enhanced penalties for the dealer.

"You say, 'Let's have harsher sentences for dealers,' Williams said. "We start charging somebody that buys 10 bags of heroin and then sells three bags to support their habit, and they get 10 years — that type of policing pretty clearly doesn't work. If I thought there was any significant deterrent effect, that would be different."

## Dual Investigations

A couple of weeks after Denise and Sean died, Burlington police returned their cellphones, laptops and other possessions to the Thibodeau. The cops had little to say about the investigation and advised the family to remain patient.

Penry and Jevry took something else: They went DIY. Desperate for answers, they had their eldest son, Goshik, who had flown in from Seattle after his brother's death, use his computer

programming skills to hack into his brother's phones and computers in an effort to reconstruct what happened the night they died.

The family shared a partial transcript of what they say is a series of communications from Sean's cellphone.

"Where you meeting him," Denise asked Sean at 7:11 p.m.

"Big daddies but he had to run and grab," Sean answered, referring to the pizza shop on Church Street in Burlington.

"He say how long?" Denise asked.

Then Sean made a phone call that lasted nine minutes to a contact in his phone known as Bobby Robinson, according to the Thibodeau's digital records.

Sean then texted his brother: "He said only a few minutes. I called him and he said he is just up the road and should be back soon."

Sean texted Robinson: "So I just saw the bathroom across the street, so still in that same parking lot."

Robidoux texted back at 2:44 p.m. "I'll be back soon. Just be patient (sic) it's worth the wait."

Sean sent his last communication just 13 minutes later and didn't respond to any more incoming messages. Dennis never sent another text or made another phone call.

Seven Days could not independently verify the communications or confirm that the person listed in Sean's phone contacts and who participated in the text message exchange was in fact Bobby Robidoux.

After Genski hooked into the phones, Penny started looking into Robidoux's background. She learned from Chittenden Superior Court records that the 32-year-old former Richmond resident has a lengthy criminal record, including convictions for resisting arrest, escape, simple assault and driving under the influence.

In 2013, Robidoux was charged with possession of heroin with intent to distribute after his probation officer found him with nearly five grams of heroin, according to court documents. He was sentenced to two years in prison after pleading no contest to an amended charge of drug possession, according to court documents, and scheduled to be released in May 2015.

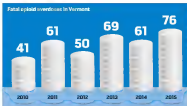
The Tibbatts family argued law enforcement to investigate Robidoux's connection to their son, repeatedly reaching out to Burlington police and the U.S. Attorney's Office. Penny had face-to-face meetings with U.S. Attorney Ken Miller and other investigators, according to correspondence provided to Seven Days.

Burlington Police Chief Friedman del Pozo declined to discuss the case in detail, beyond saying that the investigation into the Tibbatts' deaths was "very thorough."

The Tibbatts said they became frustrated as months passed and no one was charged with killing the teenage heroin in their sons. They hired private investigators and an attorney in hopes of uncovering more evidence.

"You should spend a great deal of time in jail for causing deaths," Penny said. "That's conclusively meeting fellow human beings."

In January, federal authorities announced that Robidoux had been arrested on a charge of conspiring to sell heroin. The federal indictment alleges that Robidoux and another man, Daniel Barker, who was arrested in New Jersey, sold heroin in Vermont and elsewhere between June and



August 2015. It does not provide details of these alleged operations.

When Robidoux was arrested on January 28, the U.S. Attorney's Office emailed Penny, notifying her of the time of Robidoux's arraignment as an email titled "TODAY." He's since been incarcerated at Northwest State Correctional Facility in Swanton.

Penny says that she was startled about the news of Robidoux's arrest, and investigators urged her to hold tight in the months after he was charged.

Then, on July 28, Robidoux agreed to a plea deal with federal prosecutors. He would plead guilty to a charge of participating in a drug conspiracy, which carries a sentence of three to 20 years. The deal includes a stipulation that Robidoux cannot be held legally liable "on the basis that death or serious bodily injury resulted from the defendant's distribution of heroin."

Robidoux has never been charged, or identified in publicly available court documents, as a suspect in the Tibbatts' deaths.

"I think the plea agreement speaks for itself," his attorney, Lisa Shickler, explained to Seven Days. "The U.S. Attorney's Office apparently doesn't share the Tibbatts family's beliefs. They don't have any evidence that will prove [their] allegations."

Although he declined to discuss details, Miller said in a statement, "In prosecuting our cases, we bring the most serious charges supported by the evidence. I am extraordinarily sorry for the unimaginable loss Ms. Tibbatts and her family have suffered. For in this case, as always, we have made charging and plea decisions that are consistent with our very careful examination of all of the available evidence."

Speaking generally, Miller also noted some of the complexities in

trying to bring charges in first-overdose cases. "Very few heroin addicts have only one source of supply. And many use other dangerous substances as well. Our office is nonetheless committed to investigating overdose death cases and prosecuting them when we believe we can prove our case to a jury beyond a reasonable doubt."

On August 18, Penny went to federal court and watched Robidoux plead guilty to the drug charge; she later emailed several Vermont news outlets, including *Seven Days*, to make her case that the investigation into their deaths had been mishandled.

The Tibbatts suspect prosecutors cut a deal with Robidoux in hopes that he could help them uncover more powerful dealers. "I think they caught a big fish and used him to catch a bigger fish, and Dennis and Sean became a casualty of that, but I don't think that's right," Penny said. "The only thing that makes sense is, he has provided a lot of important information to them. I know how that can work. Should I feel good about the grand good? I don't know. I suppose I should because I can't bring my sons back. But I don't want their deaths to be in vain."

## A Sign of Something?

Friends and family urged Penny to seek mental-health counseling in the weeks after her boys died. She went to two support groups. One was for parents who had lost children, and one was for people with family members who had succumbed to drug abuse.

The children's group was full of parents who had stopped celebrating holidays and, to her eyes, stopped living. She didn't fit in. But she didn't feel comfortable in the drug support group, either, as she listened to stories of parents who tried — and failed — to save an addicted son or daughter

"I didn't know," she said of her situation, while expressing sympathy for parents who did. "I didn't have a chance to help my child."

When she's not working at an accounting firm in Williston, Penny is on a crusade to learn more about drug abuse. She's become adept at navigating the federal court's online docket, and reads affidavits and warrants for Vermont drug cases. She spends hours a night reading on the subject. Recently, she became alarmed about stories of addicts in the Midwest dying from heroin spiked with carfentanyl, an elephant tranquilizer that is even more potent than fentanyl. She researched along terms she found in her sons' phones and emails.

"She told me she was one of those people who thought of people who died from overdoses as families, people you don't want to look at. She never thought anyone in her family would do it," her sister-in-law, Jean Mahoney, told *Seven Days*. "Sean told me she was ignorant of the whole situation, and she's trying to find closure any way she can."

Mostly, Penny tries to answer the questions that she knows can't be answered. "Why?" And, "Should I have known?"

She recalls Sean had an car accident in 2012. He wasn't hurt, but could that have been a sign of something? And how could she have missed the news of the end on Dennis' apartment?

The Tibbatts find some solace knowing that, in the end, their boys were together. But Penny is haunted by their final moments. Did they both die at the same time? Did one watch the other die and know he, too, was doomed?

Penny tries to put it out of his mind. He focuses on his wife, comforting her on nighttime walks, during which she has been known to cry.

"He's been hell," he said. "I'm trying not to spill off the subject so I don't get her going."

Penny is thinking about speaking at local schools or launching some kind of public awareness campaign — even though she knows many people may conclude that her sons were responsible for their own deaths.

"What's the answer? I don't have the answer," she said. "My sons deserve justice, and I can't sleep at night thinking there's one more thing I could do to bring that." ☐

Contact: mark@sevendaysvt.com, @SeventD or 802-233-6121 ext. 23



HISTORY

# Remaking Vermont

A symposium and exhibit explore how 1970s back-to-the-landers transformed the state

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

**O**ver the past 45 years, Vermont has enjoyed socially conscious capitalism by charming our Ben & Jerry's, reinvigorated rock and roll by spawning Phish, the ultimate jam band, transformed culinary culture by pioneering organic farming and locavore cuisine, and scientifically shaking the political establishment by enabling America to feel the Bern.

Each of these examples of Vermont-as-vanguard arguably arose from the back-to-the-land movement of the 1970s. If that influx of thousands of countercultural pilgrims hadn't happened, Vermont might still be mostly poor, deeply sleepy, reliably Republican and square in a big hole.

The revolution that erupted the state from the focus of a Vermont Historical Society symposium to take place in Montpelier on September 10. Two weeks later, the society will open an exhibit at its farm headquarters titled "Freaks, Radicals and Hippies: Counterculture in 1970s Vermont." The

VHS began a statewide survey in early 2015 and elicited nearly 700 responses; the results will be published online later in September. In addition, the historical society has sponsored seven discussions around the state related to the '70s counterculture.

Population statistics indicate the scope of the youth migration from northeastern metropolitan areas. The state recorded a 15 percent increase in residents during the 70s — the fastest rate of expansion per decade since the 18th century. It's estimated that 90,000 flatlanders moved to Vermont between 1970 and 1980.

Most of them did qualify as "freaks, radicals or hippies," although some were drawn more by job openings at IBM than by the prospect of free love on farms that grew their own dope. Some newcomers of pure acid in recent interviews with *Seven Days* that they proudly flew their freak flags, while others defined themselves — then and

now — as serious politicians rather than happy hippies.

A few of the aging New Agers described themselves as not fitting any of those categories. And not every urban or suburban refugee of that era was coming "back to the land." Some didn't dig the Vermont earth, having fled to the Green Mountains mainly to escape "the beat from nukes on the Lower East Side [Manhattan's second zone] or the barnet of New Left politics," said Robert Bloomer of Hanwick.

The 79-year-old observer of, and participant in, Vermont's metamorphosis is the author of *Getting Back Together*, a 1971 book about communes such as Frog Run Farm in East Charleston, where Bloomer lived for 16 years.

Despite differences in motives and outlooks, the rebels and dropouts shared some key characteristics. Nearly all were white, most were college educated and many were the offspring of prosperous parents. They chose to settle in Vermont "because of its rural

beauty, affordable land and its reputation for political and social tolerance," the historical society notes in one of the texts that will accompany its exhibit.

Vermont's defining commitment to a laissez-faire way of life was based on values that were similar to, but proleptic, those of the counterculture. Montpelier attorney Charles Martin, who arrived in Vermont in 1965 as a Norwich University cadet and became an activist, summarized the state's shifting philosophy by citing the adage "You can do whatever you want — just don't scare the horses."

Reflecting on his mellow fellow experiences in the '60s and '70s, Martin said, "Some of the locals looked a little at the skinny-dipping and other things we did, but they were basically OK with us because we didn't scare the horses."

The Age of Aquarius didn't mark the start of utopian experiments in Vermont. Millenarian communities based on religious beliefs or social ideals had sprouted in the state in the

# VERMONT'S DEFINING COMMITMENT TO A LAISSEZ-FAIRE WAY OF LIFE WAS BASED ON VALUES THAT WERE SIMILAR TO, BUT PREDATED, THOSE OF THE COUNTERCULTURE.

mid-19th century. In 1882, Helen and Scott Mead established a homestead in Winooski, where they practiced agricultural self-sufficiency for the next two decades. They published their proto-hippie lifestyle in a highly influential 1904 book, *Living the Good Life: How to Live Simply and Sustainably in a Troubled World*. In 1946, Irving Fiske invited some of his Greenwich Village neighbors to spend the summer on land he had acquired in Rochester, Vt. What began as an artists' colony morphed into a commune that's still growing on Quaker Hill.

The VHS materials give a sense of what's most distinctive and significant about the back-to-the-land movement, broadly defined. It birthed the institutions that, in their maturity, make Vermont what it is today.

Some of the communes that mixed organic crops also organized to buy food wholesale and in bulk. Such enterprises would become the Northeast Organic Farming Association, cofounded by Maurice in 1971, and supermarket-scale cooperatives such as City Market/Deaton River Co-op in Burlington and Skoggs Mountain Group in Montpelier.

Similarly, the People's Free Clinic that provided "a new land of health

care" out of a storefront in the Old North End evolved into the Community Health Center of Burlington. They now provide medical services to nearly 20,000 clients, many of them recent immigrants from Africa and Asia.

In politics, too, the period was pivotal. The Liberty Union Party, launched in 1990, espoused a radically progressive political program that appealed to Kerrie Sanders, then a recent arrival from Berkeley. "For me, again, it's a classic example of a distinct, specific historical phenomenon, the back-to-the-land movement of the 1960s," observed Ross Dalton in the April issue of *Rolling Stone*. Dalton is a 40-year-old Brooklynite who was raised in a prodigious home in the Northcote Kingdom and authored the recently published *We Are As Gods Back to the Land in the 1970s on a Quest for a New America*. She continued, "The quirky details of [Sanders'] early life—buying 80 acres of Vermont forest in 1965 and converting an old sugarhouse into living quarters—are in fact shared by thousands of other communes across the country during the same period."

Sanders joined Quaker native and Liberty Union cofounder Peter Dismendine in campaigning for a socialist agenda that Sanders later

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## Remaking Vermont

implemented, in modified form, as mayor of Burlington and advanced as a U.S. congressman, senator and presidential candidate.

The movement had a profound impact on the arts, too. Vermont country air reverberated with rock and folk music throughout the 1970s. In the V88 survey question asking which aspects of the counterculture the '70s generation identified with, nearly 60 percent of respondents ticked "arts and crafts, music." In 1975, Nectar's opened its doors on Burlington's Main Street, and later became the center of a Vermont music scene that would most famously produce Phish.

Some members of the '70s secular hippies didn't help start new organizations but instead embarked on what Rod Dutschke, a German student radical of the era, called "the long march through the institutions." Attorney Martin referred to Dutschke's notion in describing how he traced his own path. After earning a law degree from Pennsylvania State University, Martin returned to Vermont as a clerk to the state Supreme Court and later worked as a public defender. He also volunteered for conservation groups. "I saw my role as working for change through the law," he says.

David Martin, a member of the Todd Hall commune in East Haven, noted that "many of the people I knew

back then went on to become teachers, guidance counselors, local officials." They passed on their values to younger generations, "which was important in making it all last beyond that specific time in history," Martin said.

For all the good vibes emanating from '70s communes, the history of that time is also replete with divisions. Relations between new and old Vermont sometimes fell short of being far out.

In 1971, Republican Gov. Deane Davis received scores of letters from constituents frightened by rumors of a 50,000-strong "hippie invasion" of the state. The concerns were so acute and widespread that Davis felt it necessary to issue a press statement seeking to allay the fears. In keeping with Vermont's live-and-let-live spirit, the governor offered this reassurance: "Like most people, the bulk of the young transients go about their business as a self-sufficient, peaceful manner although their habits and appearance may not be to our taste." He suggested, in other words, that the hippies wouldn't scare the horses.

But some locals did prove downright hostile. Ladybelle Paine, born on Quarry Hill in 1950 and still a resident of that Rochester

**MANY OF THE PEOPLE  
I KNEW BACK THEN  
WENT ON TO BECOME TEACHERS,  
GUIDANCE COUNSELORS,  
LOCAL OFFICIALS.**

DAVID MARTIN

Multiple-Hill commune West Green 1979



East Green West Green 1979

consume, recalled shots being fired through the window of a house one night in 1972. "It was kids who were for the war [in Vietnam] and who reacted as for being against it," she said. "Some Rochester people with a lot of integrity took care of that. It didn't happen again."

Fiske also acknowledged, however, that "some of the young people who came in the '70s didn't have a stake in making sure that Quarry Hill was regarded positively by the locals." Their behaviors in town exceeded Vermont's broad capacity for tolerance, she admitted.

All was not lounjaus at the Entryway Acres commune in West Glauce, where Chris Brashers, who retired as publisher of the *Rochester Chronicle* in 2014, lived in the early '70s. "Local folks, at least on the face of it, were quite friendly," he remembered. "They lent us equipment and were helpful with the farming we were trying to do." But, at a public meeting, some *newbs* there expressed strong opposition to allowing commune members to fill openings in part-time schoolbus drivers. They worried that the happen would drop and kill their kids, Brashers recalled.

Mary Mathias, who was married to Robert when both lived on Flag Run Farm, has only positive recollections of the commune's dealings with longtime farmers in the area. "Part of the land was right on the road, and passersby would see us farming with horses," said Mathias, now a retired social worker living in Burlington. "They'd stop to give us advice because they really liked what we were doing. They taught us everything we needed to know."

The back-to-the-land movement wasn't considered some alien implant, Brashers added. "Some, the hippies fundamentally challenged the ethics of mainstream America," he said, "but northern Vermont was never really part of mainstream America. When we said we weren't going to hunt with feral hogs and would burn wood instead, the local reaction was, 'So what's the big deal?'"

While the back-to-the-land movement spawned many lasting changes in

Vermont, it proved short-lived in its most characteristic form. The state was home to at least 20 communes in 1975, yet "there were none by 1975," Horner said.

Vermont writers proved kinder and more better than many neophyte farmers could endure. Wayne Tunawsky, founder and owner of the Burlington T-shirt across-printing company Amalgamated Culture Works, was part of the early '70s exodus to Vermont from points south. "More than half the people I know who had migrated to the Rutland area had left the state by 1980," he said. "They couldn't handle the cold."

Many may have returned to comforts still an offer in the suburbs where they had come, suggested author DeLoe, an invited speaker at the historical society's September 10 symposium. "Sometimes, it was just a romantic episode in privileged people's lives," she reflected. "They found out that rural poverty isn't all that much fun."

Breakups of personal relationships also drew many liberties off the land. The call to "smash monarchy" often led to jealousies and revocations, Horner noted. "You need to be delicate when you set out to smash something that's been around for centuries," he cautioned.

Women were often on the losing end of these unstable arrangements. Freeman was not necessarily among the progressive values promoted by male hippies, Brashers remembered. In fact, Entryway Acres was unofficially subtitled "Prison Farm for Women" because, he related, "The men would be all about mechanical stuff and physical work, while the women were expected to stay in and take care of the kids."

"A lot of good stuff came out of that movement," remarked Penny Patch, a 1960s volunteer in the Deep South civil rights movement who lived at Tard Hall in the '70s, the later became a registered madwife. "There was some messy stuff, too," she went on. "Remember, we were young and were trying to figure out how to live our lives in new ways." ☐

Contact: Kelley@journalmyrm.com

## INFO

Vermont Historical Society symposium on the 1970s counterculture: Saturday September 10, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Vermont College of Fine Arts in Montpelier. Free. Tickets, schedules and happen: [countercultureinVT.org](http://countercultureinVT.org) opens Saturday September 24 at the Vermont Heritage Center in Barre. [vermontheritage.org](http://vermontheritage.org)

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# Taking Care of Business

The founder of UVM's business school and former legislator revisits history in a new book

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

**N**ow that he has self-published a history of the University of Vermont's Greenleaf School of Business, 90-year-old Malcolm Severance is enjoying his next moves.

"One goal," he said during a recent interview at his home in Colchester, "is to have as much influence as I can over what happens to the remaining land I own." That would be 70 undeveloped acres at Severance Cemetery, a strategically situated section of town named for Malcolm's parents.

Seated at a dining room table beside his wife of 65 years, the UVM professor emeritus reflected in a strong voice on a varied career that included an eight-year stint as the Vermont legislator (1969-2007) and a series of jobs at the university. As UVM officials noted in awarding him an honorary doctor of laws degree in 2008, Severance may actually hold the record for the most titles acquired by a Greenleaf graduate (plus of 1945), professor of economics and business, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, special assistant to the president, chair of the business department, and member of the UVM board of trustees.

Gladyes Severance, also a member of UVM's class of '58, offered comments of her own during the interview. It coincided with the publication of her husband's 318-page book, *A Pursuit of Excellence: A History of the University of Vermont School of Business Administration*, which took him five years to complete.

That history starts in 1899, when the business education program was established thanks to \$50,000 donated from UVM alumnus John Conover, a manufacturer of locomotives. Severance's story concludes symmetrically with an account of a gift from another UVM alumnus—the \$20 million given last year by connoisseur-dean emeritus Greenleaf, from whom the School of Business is now named.

SEVEN DAYS: You played a key role in the business department's transition into a school of its own in 1980. Apart from that, what was your biggest achievement at UVM?

MALCOLM SEVERANCE: What I'm proudest of is hiring the best people I



could find as faculty members. Vermont isn't known as a center of business, and the university was paying 15 to 20 percent below the market rate, so it wasn't easy to attract top talent. You therefore have to be imaginative. We tried to create an exciting environment where we did interesting things even though the department didn't have a big budget.

I wanted to bring in potential superstars who might be there for only a short time rather than living average teachers who would be there forever. You don't ever really stop hiring someone better than you are. These are the people who will move the program forward.

GLADYS SEVERANCE: They worked their butts off. They worked as hard against all odds to establish the School of Business.

SD: What was the biggest impediment you faced?

MS: Not having enough money to do all that we wanted. But I suppose you can never have enough money for that.

SD: Was there any resistance at the university to creating a School of Business on the grounds that it isn't based on an intellectually rigorous discipline?

MS: There was that sort of resistance from sections of the College of Arts and Sciences. They didn't see why it would be important to have a business school at UVM. Now, though, 10 percent of UVM students graduate with business degrees.

Also, there aren't exactly easy intellectual challenges people face in the world of finance.



SD: How would you rate UVM students? Are they serious about their studies?

MS: How can I answer that? I've been retired for 10 years.

When I was teaching, I'd tell students as the first day of class that the average grade was going to be a C and that those above average would get a B, and maybe there'd be a few A's. Those below would get a B, and some students will deserve to fail. I said that at the start so they'd be able to change class if they wanted.

But what happened over my career was grade inflation. It came to be seen as a failure if you didn't get at least a B. As a result, grades became meaningless.

SD: You spent a sabbatical year (1980-81) at the University of California Berkeley branch. How did that compare to UVM?

MS: It was wilder. I got trampled three times, and I was there during the deconstruction for People's Park when a protester was blinded [by police being held back].

GS: What surprised us when we came back to UVM was how much longer everyone's hair had grown.

SD: What about your years in the state legislature? What stands out?

MS: The two years I spent on a health and welfare committee were especially good for me because I had to deal with people I never had dealt with in my life.

Being on a health care reform panel was also very interesting, even though I was sort of a fishbowl. The committee wanted Vermont to have a single-payer

system. I and folks aren't ready for that. Turns out, they still aren't ready for that.

SD: I see you've got a *Feel the Bern* coffee mug. Are you a Sanders supporter?

MS: I've had only one contact with Bernie my whole life. It was some years ago at the Benning Inn where there was a gathering of state legislators that he also attended. Bernie said to me, "Malcolm, what are you doing these days?" I said I was in the legislature and was a moderate Republican. Bernie shook his head, said, "Vouching head!" and walked away.

I would go with Bernie over either of the other two candidates who are now running for president.

SD: Can you tell me about the history of Severance Cemetery, which is just a short distance from your home?

MS: It's named for my parents, who built a farmhouse there in 1930. My father, John Herbert Severance, was a local boy, born in East Junction and raised in Colchester. My family actually goes back six generations in Colchester — back to Ebenezer Severance, who came here in 1806 from Connecticut.

Before that, the Severances lived in Massachusetts. John and Abigail Severance came there from England in something like 1640.

SD: You and Gladys have three children, so it looks like the Severance presence in Vermont will continue.

GS: Yes, we have three very different children. Mark is a banker who lives in Shelburne. Owen is a housewren who has 34 storks about a mile up the road from us. Lynn [an illustrator and designer] lives on North Prospect Street in Burlington. She and her husband [Bill Harvey, a painter in the couple's design firm] converted an 1890s on the property into their studio. It's quite beautiful. We call it the Garage Mabel. ☺

## INFO

*A Pursuit of Excellence: A History of the University of Vermont School of Business Administration* by Malcolm Severance.

Self-published: 378 pages, \$24.95.

Author talks and book signing: Thursday, September 5, 7 p.m., at Proctor Books, Burlington. [www.proctorbooks.com/proctorbooks.html](http://www.proctorbooks.com/proctorbooks.html).



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# Local Fair Fare

Scouting Vermont eats at the Champlain Valley Fair

BY JULIA CLANCY

**T**his is not an article about fried food — although there's no shortage of it at the 94th Champlain Valley Fair in Essex Junction. Fried stuff is good, I know, in the way of reality television or forbidden fruit; so right is the moment, so wrong is retrospect. When marched beside a halting Farm wheel and a tower of flying chairs, moon-rotated candy apples and slabs of fried dough seem like perfectly fitting candy treats.

Just last Saturday, during my first-ever visit to Vermont's biggest fair, I had two simple goals. First, to find the local-based food businesses helmed by Vermonters with a flair for good cooking. Though I'm a relative newbie to the state, I'm long known that Vermont, with its density of farmers, makers and artisans, produces some of the best food in the country. So, even before setting foot in the fairgrounds, I figured good, local fare had to exist somewhere in the sea of fried cream and candy floss.

My second goal: to find the alcohol, because I had just ridden a spinning orb called the Stomping 2000.

Turns out, once you get past the "loosey nuggest" tapped with Reese's Puffs — a dish that proves two rights don't always make a right — local food isn't hard to find.

My first stop was the Muffin Man, a purple food stand fringed by potluck violins stationed at the fair since 1993; the Colchester-based stall, run by Dan and Laurie Knapp of North Country Specialty Foods in Jeffersonville, is known for eclairs and cream puffs.

Cashier Maura Scanzello says the dogs are baked each night in ovens half hidden in the back. I ordered a cream puff, its center gaping with a zucchini-rose glaze of whipped cream. The cream was so sticky with confectioners' sugar that it had the texture of whipped butter,



Smashin' Burger at Benelli's Beachside Eatery

**THE GRILLED-TO-PINK BURGER WAS GLORIOUS, WITH THE CARAMELIZED CRUNCH OF MAPLE SYRUP STILL CLINGING TO THE BUN.**

and as saccharine as my teeth ached. It was too much of everything: sweet, big, greasy and delicious. But the ceremony of the thing — massive, stuffed to bursting and showered with powdered sugar — put it squarely in the fast-food fair

category, worth every penny when in need of something excessive.

Near the Muffin Man, a wood-ponded hut advertised homemade apple pie from Allenholts Farm, a seven-generation apple farm in South Hero. In a landscape of food dye and fryer oil, Allenholts keeps it simple. I was tempted by the pie but was still recovering from the cream puff, so I snatched on an apple purchased for 50 cents. Perhaps it's the newbie in me, but come on: Where else besides Vermont can a dinger buy a single, unadorned apple picked just 10 minutes away?

"Try the cider slush," said mall owner Susanna Chagnon as she

poored the drink in a Dixie cup. Unlike its red and blue counterparts charging to shanties machines nearby, Chagnon's slush has one ingredient: unpasteurized, half-frozen cider. The last time I had a slushie was the sixth grade, when I'd like to the 7-Eleven with my cousins for a Goo-Cola here. The cider slush was infinitely better and more refreshing than the overpriced bottles of soda from nearby concession stands. As I drank it to the dregs, pausing briefly for a brain freeze, the pressure of the 90-degree day started to lift.

LOCAL FAIR FARE: 6/1/14

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# SIDEdishes

BY JULIA CLANCY & SUZANNE POSHAIZER



Burlington Farmers Market at Memorial Auditorium

## Big Market on Campus

BURLINGTON WINTER FARMERS MARKET MOVES TO SAND CENTER

Why back when, Memorial Auditorium was the most happening spot in Burlington, it hosted basketball games, boating championships and concerts by some of the hottest acts in music. Now the building, constructed in 1932, has been declared structurally unsafe. Organizers such as Burlington City Arts' prize and clay studios and the Generator maker space are moving out (see "State of the Arts," this issue).

Likewise, the Burlington Winter Farmers Market, which has been held on alternate Saturdays (with exceptions around the holidays) in Memorial Auditorium since its inception a decade ago, needed to find a new venue. And it did, at the University of Vermont's Dudley R. Davis Center. "Our official home is going to be the Old Artisan (on the ground floor)," says market manager CHRIS WAGNER.

Visitors to the market won't find much different besides location when it opens on November 14, Wagner continues. There

will still be 55 vendors, with the option to increase the number in future. "We're excited to keep the same feel the Winter Market has had," Wagner says.

What will change? At UVM, unlike in downtown Burlington, parking will be free and plentiful. And the university is heavily invested in composting and recycling, an orientation that fits the market's mission. "The building is so much more appropriate for us, as far as the services that are offered," Wagner says.

However, he grants that change on chain things up. "Being a little further from the downtown core of Church Street, we may lose some people," Wagner says. Still, he expects new customers coming from South Burlington and Williston will even out the numbers.

What about upgrades? Although Wagner says the market's location was chosen to meet the needs of vendors and customer shoppers, it will inevitably attract more students, as well. "I anticipate a great relationship with [them]," he says.

Wagner acknowledges that "students sample a lot (without buying), that's a given." But, he points out,

some upgrades may form relationships with farmers, then prompt their visiting parents to shell out for the goods.

After all, only twenty-acreshopping are the next generations of farmers market shoppers — and the new market should offer their plenty of fuel for their weekend trips to the slopes.

—J.P.

## Drop In for a Pint

DRINK-UP BEERERS, STOWS PINTS, PLEASE FANS

Fans of Middlebury's DROP-IN BEERWALK have a reason to raise their glasses. "We managed to clear all hurdles to serve beer in larger amounts than we were before," says cofounder STEVE PERLES. He's talking about Drop-In's new first-class bayer.



license, which will allow the brewery to serve pints on the premises.

"When we began, we were mostly focused on beer education, using the meeting room to give samples and, of course, selling our bottles," Perles continues. "As time went on, people started asking if would be great to have a glass of beer on-site after tastings. I thought, 'Hey, that's actually a nice idea.'"

Perles and his wife, brewery cofounder CHRISTINE MCGOWAN-PERLES, obtained a license from the state and, on August 14, the team started serving full pints to the brewery's tasting room.

A partnership with

Drop-In's neighbor, the SHAPING SCALE, ensures there's plenty of beer-centric fare on offer. Think spangly crackers, beer-pairing cheese boards, chocolate cider made with Drop-In's Heart of Lushkin, and slings steamed with Old Joe Seasoning and a brew called Sandstone and Hopprints.

"The tasting room's wine will feature 'selects,'" says Perles, with mountain, table, chairs and sofas providing extra room to lounge with a pint. A guitar, microphone and amp will be plugged in, continues Perles, "just in case."

Also exciting, he notes, was the arrival of Drop-In's new canning machinery last Thursday. In keeping with the brewery's intention to "serve beer in larger amounts," Perles hopes cans of Heart of Lushkin and Sandstone and Hopprints will hit shelves by early November.

—J.C.

## Juiced Up

ICEBERG + JUICE IS OPEN SECOND BURLINGTON AREA JUIT

After spending nearly 17 years as a celebrity hair stylist in New York City, ICEBERG native ANITA CRUT returned to his hometown and opened a salon. Shortleaved Juice moved from a shored-up Idiom Street location to 628 Pine Street, where its owner also opened ICEBERG + JUICE. Since November 2013, CRUT's vegetarian and vegan cafe, right next to his salon, has been fueling the community with organic, non-GMO and mostly local fare. Now, four years into the food biz, CRUT is set to open a second Ice Beans + Juice at Sunset Street's like Moll in South Burlington.

The new Ice Beans, opening in late October, will maintain the first one's

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## Local Fair Fare

Restored, I made my way to the Ware Building, where Ken Ezer, a chef at Shelburne Farms, was hosting a roasting demo on dilly green beans. Ezer passed me a snappy pickled string bean to sample while he explained the beauty of vinegar in quick fermentation. I missed most of the demo, but Ezer was eager to show me and a few other latecomers around the test kitchen, offering jars of star anise to sniff and offering a shallow spoonful of the smoky, slow-braising firmiche made by Shelburne Farms executive chef Jim McCarthy.

Shortly after leaving the Ware Building, I stumbled upon Rand's Roadside Eatery. Cary Charles' food truck normally set up in downtown Essex Junction.

"This is 'Local Street' right here," Charles said through the truck's side window.

He gestured to the strip of food stands to his left, where familiar Vermont names such as the Skinny Fanculo, Mr. Sausage, Abbi Kabab's Kabob Shop and Ah! French Frys appear among the crowded stalls. Charles ups the local note by sourcing the bulk of his ingredients from Vermont farmers, such as burger toppings and ground beef from Vinton Farm in East Montpelier.

"I grew up on a farm," he added. "It's do anything I can to support the farmers around me."

Rand's fits the bill of quality local fare, and Charles gladly hops on the food-truck wagon with offerings including deep-fried, mac-and-cheese balls and fried pickles topped with yellow mustard.

"The duck-fat fries are amazing," remarked a fellow patron behind me. I was eyeing the French-fry dog, a grilled Vienna hot dog loaded with cheddar, rose-marinated bacon and a fried egg. But then I saw the avocado burger.

"If you're into crying tears of joy, you better have a shot of miso," Charles advised me. I placed my order: A fat mustard ball and a soft, seared beef are seared in Vermont apple syrup, then stacked on a quarter-pound patty with melted Havarti cheese. I'm not much of a cryer, but the grilled-to-pink burger was glorious with the caramelized crunch of maple syrup still clinging to the bun.

Next, I was to leave "Local Street" for a quick walk to digest and see the sights. Alligators bined in ponds before an afternoon Kachigash. Three enormous Highland cattle



Pizza is sliced and sold from Northern Pie & Slice.

withheld me from behind their bland bangs. I found a hamlike building called the Maple Sugar House that was selling everything from sugar on snow to maple crime doughnuts.

Then, like a straggler, a hole-in-the-wall place called Jaque's Deli advertised Dog Team sticky bun — the doughnut-pastries that in Middlebury are reminders of the late Dog Team Tavern, which burned down about exactly 50 years ago. The buns were made from the original Dog Team recipe, but they looked slightly sad in their aluminum tins.

When I returned to "Local Street," Chris O'Neil was hanging with his little niece, Alexis, behind his family's Essex Junction-based food stand, Rajan Cajun.

"My parents and I are big on local food," O'Neil explained, adding that his family got much of Rajan Cajun's supplies from the Five Corners Farmers Market in town. Besides like po'boy sandwiches, finger jambalaya with white rice, Cajun chicken and sausage

showcase the O'Neil's boy-on-sausage fare.

Further up the "street," Billon Kuley's food truck Louisiana Supreme, usually parked on Pine Street in Burlington, pronounced homemade cuisine. I wanted to order Kuley's pork chignon with rice and fried plantains, but I had to move on to the final stand on my tour: Northern Pie & Slice from Eden, the newest addition to the fair's stock of vendors. From the depths of their mobile, wood-fired oven, husband-and-wife team Kriss Allen and Gary Bender turned three habanero pies, each topped with chorizo from Jasper Hill Farm and seasonal veggies from Sun Manna's Farm Market. Freezer-store sauces such as worsters and pesto complement homemade pizza dough made with beer from Rock Art Brewery.

"I need to do glass work, like making wine bottles into cheese traps," said Allen as she handed over a slice of Buffalo chicken pizza — complete with local leeks, Jasper Hill's Ripley Bones Blue and chicken sourced in Poult's Redbird Wings Sausage. "But it wasn't working for me." Allen recalled how she was looking for a summer project. "Gary's dad had made me a food wagon at country fairs," she continued. "We'd sell burgers and dogs, but we wanted to do something a bit different."

Stuffed to bursting like a Maple Min cream puff, I left Vermont's small-business vendors and dashed into Hubbard's Endmeister Roadhouse, where two Vermonters nursed sunburned shoulders and chatted about the pig races over drafts of End Light and Long Trail Brewing's Summer Ale.

Other drinking spots at the fair include an outdoor beer and wine garden that offers the usual commercial names. A Bud Light draft will run you \$6, but it's worth the price for a shady place to people watch. There's also a cocktail bar called Toot that has cans of Otisier Cider and 16th Star Brewery's Valor Ale, along with lots of Beersmith and a larger commercial wine selection.

At Hubbard's, Zeen Gravity Craft Brewery's Green State Lager on draft proved the perfect way to end my pressure hunt for Vermont-based food vendors.

"Time for a beer, isn't it?" said the bartender, slightly noting that I looked as exhausted as a hot post-Bray World. But tired, sweaty and sunburned as I was, I understood why the Champlain Valley Fair is 94 years old and counting — curly fries and all. ☺

Contact: clemey@seesawnyet.com

## INFO

The Champlain Valley Fair runs through Saturday, September 4, at the Champlain Valley Exposition in Essex Junction.

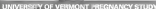
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What won't change, however, is Ken Beane + Joyce's guiding mentality: "I want a place that

people can come in and feel safe, knowing what we have on the menu is clean and sourced properly," Crax continues. "Our mind-set is, quality over profit."

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Since June Rained Up on the River has summered, Mad River Valley residents to Whitefish for live music, local food, drinks, and evening dips beneath the town's power bridge. But the ill-fated summer, the series is stunning its own way. Next Wednesday (September 7), a Rained Up live! installment, will see indie, underground acts from MOUNTAIN BURNCHARTERS, play-party folks from the MAD TACED and MINIMUS & FORGIVEN. And — because weather's weather — a coming — you'll probably want to finish with something sweet and cold from [CROOKETS CAFE](http://www.crookets.com).

Check the Seven Days Food Truck Finder — a really nice online tool that lets you know where and when to find your city's food trucks, all-wheelz. Check it out at [www.sevendaysfoodtrucks.com](http://www.sevendaysfoodtrucks.com).

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# Farm to Dining Hall

Saint Michael's College's Brian Roper

BY HANNAH PALMER EGAN

**L**ast Thursday, August 28, the class of 2020 arrived at Saint Michael's College in Colchester. Since headed from nearby towns, others from around the state, country and world.

The scene was familiar to anyone who's ever attended move-in day at an American residential college. Nervous, backpacked young adults exchanged suitcases, trunks and boxes from hatchbacks to dorm rooms. They made eye contact with new friends they hadn't met yet, some already having parents when they no doubt worriedly would just have already left early afternoons, everyone — students, staff and parents — was hungry.

Behind the scenes, the St. Mike's dining staff made the shift from its summer delirium to fall-on-orientation ruckus. During the hour, an ad hoc team offers meals for a couple hundred summering students, athletes, parents and professors. Now they were serving lunch for 1,500 people and, in the evening, throwing a freshman-welcome cocktail for everyone on campus. For the next week, campus activity would crescendo until the entire college community returned for the academic year.

Most of the college's full-time residents eat three meals a day on campus — that's about 5,000 meals per day. Making sure each meal comes off without a hitch is the job of dining services general manager Brian Roper.

Roper joined the college in 2015 after more than a decade at the University of Vermont. Then and now, he worked for Sodexo, which oversees food operations at most of Vermont's colleges and major hospitals — about 34,000 meals daily when schools are in session.

As Roper rose from the post of UVM cook to that of Sodexo's district chef, local food became trendy on campus. In 2013, Vermont Farm to Plate connected state officials, nonprofits and farmers

to develop a 10-year plan to increase local food production and consumption. In 2014, Roper helped launch Sodexo's Vermont Farm Program, which works with farms and distributors — such as Black River Produce — to connect the dots between local farms and institutional kitchens.

Two years into the program, St. Mike's sources nearly 15 percent of its food from Vermont farms and producers. Roper says he expects that number to continue to rise as farmers scale up and programs heave into the distribution chain, and as that chain becomes accessible to a broader range of farmers and consumers.

In the meantime, Roper's just trying to make sure everyone gets fed — and doing his best to educate building licensors as they shuffle through his dining hall. Last Thursday, the chef spared some time for an early-morning chat with *Seven Days* about such, on-the-attitudes and the "freshness."

**SEVEN DAYS:** What did you have for breakfast today?

**BRIAN ROOPER:** I had some scrambled eggs and a bowl of fruit.

**SD:** Where did you grow up, and how did your family eat back then?

**BR:** I grew up in Bristol, Conn. I was very typical kid. I grew up on potato-butter-and-jelly until I started doing some of the cooking at home — and realized that broccoli and Brussels sprouts were good.

**SD:** How did you get into cooking?

**BR:** My mother didn't work until I was about 12, and then she and my father both worked. So I'd come home from school and prep dinner. I'd be helping Grandma on the phone line, "How do I know if

**Mate food after the class/dinner section. PAGE 47**



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**REASON HERE:** My owner couldn't longer care for me.

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:** Midnite is diabetic, which means he is on a special diet and meds. Ask staff about his care!

**DOGS/CATS/KIDS:** Midnite's history with dogs, cats and children is unknown. He may do well with children.

**SUMMARY:** Black as night and sweet as pie, Midnite has won the hearts of every staff member at HSCC. This sweet senior boy has a sweet tooth for food and for love! He will make an excellent snuggle bug companion and co-snoozer for me, a diabetic feline. Just as the day changes at midnight, adopting Midnite will change your life forever! If you have room in your home and your heart, ask about this sweetie today.

Visit Midnite at HSCC, 342 Kindness Court, South Burlington, Tuesday through Friday from 1 to 6 p.m., or Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call 862-0035 for more info.



Humane  
Society  
of Chittenden County

Sponsored by



24/7 RV/SPECIALTY CARE

NEW STUFF ONLINE EVERY DAY! PLACE YOUR ADS 24-7 AT SEVENDAYSVT.COM.











## FOR SALE BY OWNER

List your property here for 2 weeks for only \$45! Contact Ashley, 864-5684, fsbo@sevendaysvt.com.

### BEAUTIFUL WATER VIEWS IN ESSEX JUNCTION



Charming 3 BR, 3 BA, 100' wide cottage home with beautiful view of Lake Champlain. Includes a large deck, hot tub, and a large lot. Call for more info.

### MASSIVE LIVE/WORK ARTIST LOFT



Beautiful 2000 sq ft artist loft in a historic building. Features a large studio space, living area, and kitchen. Call for more info.

### BEAUTIFUL VICTORIAN IN HAIR



Historic Victorian house in Hair. Features a large front porch, multiple fireplaces, and a finished basement. Call for more info.

### NEW HAVEN HOMESTEAD



4-50 acre, 2000 sq ft, 3+ car garage, 34 acres in town country. Includes a large deck, hot tub, and a large lot. Call for more info.

### NURLINGTON HILL MID-CENTURY MODERN



Beautiful 2000 sq ft mid-century modern house in Burlington Hill. Features a large deck, hot tub, and a large lot. Call for more info.

List your property here for 2 weeks for only \$45! Contact Ashley, 864-5684, fsbo@sevendaysvt.com.

convenient off town side and in proximity to town. Call for more info.

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<p><b>Teacher Apprenticeship Program</b> at Champlain College Continuing Professional Studies</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">TEACHER LICENSURE</h2>
<p>Learn more at our <b>INFORMATIONAL SESSION</b> <b>Thursday, September 1st</b> <b>6:30 p.m.</b> REGISTER AT <a href="http://TAPvt.org">TAPvt.org</a></p>	
<p><b>Answer your calling; it's not too late to TEACH.</b></p>	
<p><b>Transition to teaching in just eight months with the Teacher Apprenticeship Program</b> TAP is a fast track to teacher licensure for candidates with a bachelor's degree who desire to teach in grades 5-12. Learn more at <a href="http://tapvt.org">tapvt.org</a> or call 802-455-5844.</p>	<p><b>Champlain College</b> 175 Lakeside Avenue Miller Center Burlington, Vermont</p>  <p><b>CHAMPLAIN COLLEGE</b></p>



**Deli Help**  
No experience  
Market leading per  
hour wage!

We have a great environment, pretty fast paced. We need an early bird (starts 5:30 am, but begins work at 7:30) and a night owl (starts at 10:00 and goes down to 11 at the latest). Experience preferred but will train the right people. Please be really into customer service and generally enjoy people. Help if you are good!

Do not call and please don't stop by just to ask a question. Any other time would be great to stop and sit out an application.

1 SCHOOL STREET, MONTPELIER VT

**Line Cooks**  
**PUB COOKS**  
**SALAD BAR ATTENDANTS**

For our high volume  
Woodjammer kitchen. We  
offer a competitive wage  
and benefits package that  
includes medical/dental  
401(k), paid time off and  
discounts.

Woodjammer  
Hospitality Group  
Attn: Human Resources  
1070 Wilketon Road  
South Burlington, VT 05403  
Fax: 852-651-0640  
[seems@woodjammergroup.com](mailto:seems@woodjammergroup.com)  
133



Dynapower Company in South Burlington, VT is a leading manufacturer of large custom power supplies and energy conversion systems. Our staff is dedicated to providing quality workmanship and the highest level of customer service. We offer an extensive benefits package and a pleasant working environment, as well as an opportunity for personal and professional growth. We are currently accepting resumes and applications for the following positions:

**Test Technician**  
1st Shift

**Test Technician**  
2nd Shift (2pm-10:30pm)

For complete job descriptions and qualifications go to [dynapower.com](http://dynapower.com) and click on "employment."

**Please apply online or mail to:**

**Dynapower Company**  
85 Meadowland Dr  
S. Burlington, VT 05403

Or email resume to: [resumes@dynapower.com](mailto:resumes@dynapower.com)

**EDE/Minorities/Females/Vet/Disability**

The law requires an employer to post notices describing the Federal law prohibiting pay discrimination based on race, color, sex, age, religion, origin, age equal pay disability and genetic information.

6000's poster is available at [www.governmentjobs.com/posting\\_notice\\_poster.pdf](http://www.governmentjobs.com/posting_notice_poster.pdf)



**HOPE**  
Housing Opportunity Program

## MATERIALS HANDLER

We need a task-oriented, mechanically inclined, physically fit person to work 29.5 hours a week, assisting in managing the flow of furniture and other items through our warehouse and store. Duties will include greeting customers, assisting with pickups and deliveries, forklift and pallet operations. Must have good people skills, be task oriented, and able to work independently and as part of a team. We pay more than minimum wage!

## RETAIL ASSOCIATE

We need someone to work 29.5 hours a week, running a cash register, assisting customers, and keeping our busy store stocked and organized. Must have solid cash handling experience, good people skills, and be attentive to detail. We pay more than minimum wage!

## HOUSING ASSISTANT

20 hour a week position assisting homeless services staff at HOPE. Duties include apartment searches, landlord relations and negotiations, assisting in matching homeless individuals and families with housing, and data entry. Must have good people skills, reliable transportation, be able to work as part of a team, and be able to perform data entry with speed and accuracy.

Resume and cover letter to  
[recognition@hope-vt.org](mailto:recognition@hope-vt.org), or mail to **Personnel**,  
**PO Box 165, Middlebury, Vermont 05753.**  
**EOE**

**2 Vermont Association  
for the Blind  
and Visually Impaired**

## Driver

Driver needed to work with a visually impaired employee traveling to Franklin County from South Burlington. Must have reliable vehicle, clean driving record and flexible schedule. 30 hours per week. Hourly rate plus mileage.

Please call Lori Newcome at **802-884-3558 ext. 233** for an application or e-mail resume to: [lnewcome@vablv.org](mailto:lnewcome@vablv.org).  
EOE

**PART-TIME  
Office Support**  
for Busy Medical Practice in  
Middlebury, VT

**JOB DUTIES INCLUDE:**  
Must be detailed oriented  
Team Player  
Phone support  
Scheduling Patients  
Filing & Scanning

**SEND RESUME TO:**  
Vermont Medical Sleep Disorders  
Center, Inc., DR Pearl St. 1500  
Jct. VT 05452  
Attention R. Paquette



Worcester Community Health Services, Inc.

**Human Resource Generalist  
HR Generalist/Payroll Supervisor**

WCMHS is hiring for **TWO HR POSITIONS**. Both positions will work closely with the rest of the HR team to provide general support and assist in the execution of a wide variety of programs and procedures which may include: oversight of payroll, benefits management, management of leaves of absence including FMLA and short-term disability, workers' compensation, recruitment and training. College degree and 3-5 years' experience in comparable combination of education, experience and HR/SPHR/SHRM/CHSCP certification preferred. Attention to detail, excellent follow up skills, and high proficiency in MS Office are a must! Experience with ADP Workforce Now a plus.

Please send letter of interest/resume to [personnel@wcmhs.org](mailto:personnel@wcmhs.org).

Vermont  
College of  
Fine Arts**Assistant Director  
of the Visual Arts Program**

The Assistant Director of the Visual Art program is full-time. This position adds the Program Director and Vice President for Enrollment in daily office duties required for successful academic program enrollment and coordination, and communicates closely with the Program Director. VF enrolled students, program faculty, visiting artists, artist teachers and other guests of the college. Bachelor's degree required, at least 2 years in an academic administrative position or related experience and experience with art education and/or management.

More information and application instructions available at [vcfa.edu/about-vcfa/careers](http://vcfa.edu/about-vcfa/careers).



**Northwest Access TV (NWATV)** is looking for a motivated professional with a passion for community media to join the team as our Technology Coordinator. If you enjoy working collaboratively with colleagues and community members, have strong tech troubleshooting and communications skills, are a great problem solver and have a minimum of three years' video production and editing experience, we want to hear from you.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Direct and edit video projects
- Execute master control functions
- Coordinate equipment upgrades, repairs and maintenance
- Maintain and update website

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Bachelor's in related field or at least 5 years of relevant experience
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Valid driver's license and reliable personal transportation
- Strong knowledge of editing software (preferably Adobe suite)

Send resume, cover letter and video samples to  
[director@northwestaccess.tv](mailto:director@northwestaccess.tv)

The University of Vermont  
COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING  
& MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES**Advance your  
CAREER****Certificate  
Programs in STEM** **2 years  
or less**[www.uvm.edu/certificateprograms](http://www.uvm.edu/certificateprograms)**The State of Vermont**  
*for the people... the places... the possibilities.***Vermont Psychiatric  
Care Hospital****Psychiatric Clinical Specialty Nurse  
REGISTERED NURSE II & III****New Compensation Plan Implemented**

Vermont Psychiatric Care Hospital (VPCCH), a 25 bed state-of-the-art, progressive facility providing excellent care in a recovery-oriented, safe, respectful environment, has immediate openings for Psychiatric Clinical Specialty Nurses on all shifts. Whether you are a nurse seeking a career path or looking for a change, you can make a difference in the changing landscape of mental health care, there's a rewarding opportunity at VPCCH. This is an exciting opportunity for experienced nurses. In addition to an excellent benefits package, tuition reimbursement and loan repayment assistance may be available for eligible applicants.

Apply Online at [www.careers.vermont.gov](http://www.careers.vermont.gov).

**Registered Nurse II (Psychiatric Clinical Specialty Nurse)** --Job Opening AD# 619938

**Registered Nurse III (Charge Psychiatric Clinical Specialty Nurse)** --Job Opening ID# 619941

For more information, please contact Kathy Bushey at 802-505-0501 or [kathleen.bushey@vermont.gov](mailto:kathleen.bushey@vermont.gov).

To apply, you must use the online job application at [careers.vermont.gov](http://careers.vermont.gov). For questions related to your application, please contact the Department of Human Resources Recruitment Services at 855-628-6700 (toll-free) or 800-253-0191 (TDD/Relay Services). The State of Vermont is an equal opportunity employer and offers an excellent total compensation package.

**VERMONT**

## SALES/CUSTOMER SERVICE

Pete's Greens Farm Market in Waterbury is looking for local food enthusiasts. We have a sales/customer service position available. 25-35 hours weekly. \$18.00/hr. and produce experience ideal but not required. Full job description at [petesgreens.com/about/jobs](http://petesgreens.com/about/jobs).



## BlueLinx

We are looking for candidates to fill a CDL Driver position and a Warehouse/Material Handler position in our Shelburne, VT location. BlueLinx is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia and is a leading distributor of building products in North America. Employing approximately 1,900 people, BlueLinx offers over 10,000 products from more than 750 suppliers, and services approx. 11,500 customers nationwide.

### CDL Driver

Shelburne, VT  
Regular Full-Time, Day (Tues-Fri)

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

Class A CDL is required. 18 months of tractor trailer driving experience with 18-wheel is preferred. Candidate must have a safe driving record with no DUIs in last 7 years and good customer service skills.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

Drivers are responsible for securing loads, performing pre-trip safety inspections, and maintaining trip reports. Use of an electronic logbook and updating on board computer is required. Timely delivery to customers ensuring safe loading and unloading of product, accurate Proof of Delivery paperwork, and maintaining a professional attitude is essential.

### Material Handler

Shelburne, VT  
Regular Full-Time, Day (Mon-Fri)

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

The ideal candidate will have previous forklift experience. The ability to proficiently and safely use forklifts to transport product/load and unload trucks is required. Previous warehouse as well as shipping/receiving experience is preferred. The ability to read and comprehend sales order, purchase orders, safety material, etc. is necessary.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES:

The loading and unloading of trailers and rail cars in an efficient and safe manner is required. Material handlers must be able to select product of appropriate quality during the building of loads for shipment. Properly documenting inbound and outbound freight as well as completing daily cleaning, stocking, and organizing tasks is also needed.

Please forward your resume to [george.schaefer@jungepro.com](mailto:george.schaefer@jungepro.com) or fill out an application at [blueinx.com](http://blueinx.com).

### Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable Specialist

The Vermont Teddy Bear Company is in search of a new member of the Bear Cove! The Accounts Payable & Accounts Receivable Specialist will ensure timely and accurate payment of vendor accounts and billing/collection of customer accounts for Vermont Teddy Bear Company and its sister companies. The ideal candidate will have previous experience, be highly organized and detail oriented with strong computer skills.

Qualified candidates are encouraged to apply online at [vermontteddybear.com/employment](http://vermontteddybear.com/employment) or submit a resume and cover letter to [jobs@tedbear.com](mailto:jobs@tedbear.com).



## SELF-SUFFICIENCY CASE MANAGER

*Make a difference by helping individuals to achieve their goals of independence.*



Vermont State Housing Authority, a statewide affordable housing provider, has an exciting opportunity for an individual to join their dedicated team of employees. Position will coordinate & administer case management to Section 8 program participants for a variety of programs. Bachelor's Degree & a minimum of two years' work experience in social services with a focus on case management & outreach. Position is home-based & requires working in a field environment covering Franklin, Chittenden, Grand Isle & Addison counties, with driving on a regular basis. Position is funded based on annual appropriations.

Details, requirements & qualifications at [www.vshg.org](http://www.vshg.org). Cover letter & resume to: **HR, VSHG, 1 Prospect St., Montpelier, VT 05602-3556, or [contact@vshg.org](mailto:contact@vshg.org).**

VSHG is an Equal Opportunity Employer



**PHYSICAL THERAPISTS**  
JOIN OUR EXCEPTIONAL TEAM!  
Lumberville Home Health & Hospice is a full or part time Physical Therapist. Enjoy the flexibility of working within the home health industry providing. You will be part of an interdisciplinary team in a work environment that employs your full range of skills in the comfort of our patient's home. Requirements: Graduate of an accredited School of Physical Therapy. Bachelor's Degree in Physical Therapy required. Two years of clinical practice in a medically-oriented setting preferred. Must have a valid Vermont Driver's license with proof of insurance, excellent salary and benefits. Email your resume to: [hr@lthg.org](mailto:hr@lthg.org) or call 802-885-4851

## FULL-TIME Front Office Support

for Busy Medical practice location: East Junction

#### JOB DUTIES INCLUDE:

Must be detail oriented  
Team Player  
Phone support  
Scheduling Patients  
Filing & Screening

#### BENEFITS INCLUDE:

2 weeks' vacation  
7 holidays  
3 sick days  
100% with matching  
and health insurance

#### SEND RESUME TO

Vermont Medical  
Sleep Disorders Center, Inc.  
100 Pearl St.  
East Jct. VT 05452  
Attention: R. Fiquets

## Substitute School

### Nursing Staff Immediate Openings

The Orange North Supervisory Union is seeking qualified substitute nurses to join our school nursing services team. RN (Registered Nurse) must have an Associate or Bachelor's degree from a program accredited by the National League for Nursing and a valid Vermont RN license. Successful candidates must hold CPR and first aid certifications, have high quality nursing and independent work skills and excellent communication and organization skills. Experience with children and families preferred.

Please submit cover letter, resume, certification documents and three letters of reference to:  
**Orange North Supervisory Union**  
1118 Brush Hill Road  
Williamstown, VT 05479  
EOE



### Full-Time Teachers

Pine Forest Children's Center seeks 3 Full-Time Teachers. Lead Infant Teacher, Elementary Teacher and Preschool Teacher (young preschool class) PFCC is an early learning program that provides

high quality child care for diverse families of children 0-5 weeks through 5 years of age. We work in partnership with families to help children grow to the best of their abilities.

The ideal candidates will be motivated, responsible, and flexible team players that can work with young children and possess strong communication skills. BA Degree in Early Childhood Education is required for Lead Infant Teacher position.

Please send resume, cover letter, and three letters of recommendation to: Amy Ligas, Executive Director, Pine Forest Children's Center, 288 Flynn Ave., Suite 25, Burlington, VT, 05401. (802) 651-9455 or e-mail: [amy@thepineforest.org](mailto:amy@thepineforest.org) EOE.

### PAYDATA WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

#### Conversion & Training Specialist

PayData Workforce Solutions is looking for an additional team member to join our Conversion & Training Department. Our Conversion Specialists work closely with new clients to convert them to our payroll, HR and timekeeping systems. Comfort with public speaking is important as this position also entails training individuals and groups on our various application systems. Having the ability to adapt quickly to new and changing technology is key.

The ability to multi-task and manage multiple projects concurrently with a high degree of accuracy is critical. Candidates must possess strong written and organization skills and be able to communicate effectively in both written and verbal manner. Candidates should also have proven troubleshooting skills.

Prior customer service and payroll experience is required; working knowledge of the "Evolution" payroll software is desirable.

Apply online at:  
[paydata payroll.com/jobs/careersite.com/joblist.aspx](http://paydata payroll.com/jobs/careersite.com/joblist.aspx)



#### Counseling Services of Addison County, Inc.

Seeking and committed to making a difference.

#### DIRECT CARE PROVIDER

Are you seeking a full or part time opportunity to make a difference in people's lives? Be a part of 24/7 team supporting CRT consumers in a residential setting. Implement treatment, support plans and support daily living skills. Experience in working with mentally ill preferred. Knowledge of, or desire to learn about, the needs and desires of the mentally ill. Ability to deal with clients in all types of situations with patience, insight, and compassion. Ability to work effectively with others with implementation of client program and goals. Driver's license and occasional use of car necessary.

Submit resume and cover letter to [apply@casv.org](mailto:apply@casv.org).  
For more opportunities, please visit [casv.org](http://casv.org).

### WINGS OVER BURLINGTON

NOW HIRING

**Delivery Drivers,  
Fry Cooks, Phone Staff**  
at our South Burlington store. Great food and a fun work environment! Please stop in at our Blue Mail location on Dorset Street to fill out an application.



### New England Federal Credit Union

New England Federal Credit Union, Vermont's largest Credit Union with 7 branch locations, is a growing organization committed to excellence in service, convenience, and simplicity. NEFCU offers a stable, supportive, high standards work environment, where employees are treated as key stakeholders. Please visit our website, [www.nefcu.com](http://www.nefcu.com), to learn more about the great opportunities and benefits that exist at NEFCU.

#### Part-Time ATM/Mail Courier

**Part-time hours (Wednesday 10:00am-6:00pm, Thursday and Friday 7:00am-6:00pm)**

Part-time opportunity exists for a Courier at NEFCU. Responsibilities will include supporting the daily function of the Company's internal/external mail distribution and postage machine operations as well as ATM servicing. Position will also provide backup for ATM deposit processing and therefore must have an upgrade for numbers. Successful candidates must have good organizational skills, be attentive to details, and have knowledge of MS Office. Must be able to lift up to 50 pounds, have the ability to perform tasks while standing for extended periods of time and carry a valid driver's license.

#### Full and Part-time Teller Positions Available

##### Chittenden County Offices

Vermont's largest credit union is growing and has a full-time teller opportunity available for the right person. Preferred candidates will present a responsible work history previously in a retail environment and be comfortable and skilled with face to face communication.

Successful candidates for this position will provide friendly, fast and accurate service to members. The ability to explain our various products and services as well as the ability to recognize and suggest solutions to our members will be necessary.

This position requires standing and/or sitting at a computerized work station. Off-site parking is required, shuttle transportation is provided. Daily member interactions include cash handling and processing of all member transactions. Extensive keyboarding and the ability to use multiple system applications are required. This position requires occasional lifting of cases and cash, up to 30 pounds.

Qualified applicants should submit a complete resume and cover via nefcu.com illustrating reasons for interest and further qualification.

NEFCU enjoys an employee-of-choice distinction with turnover averaging less than 10 percent. More than 95 percent of our 165 staff say NEFCU is a great place to work (2015 Annual Staff Survey). If you believe you have the qualifications to contribute to this environment, please send your resume and cover letter and salary history to [hr@nefcu.com](mailto:hr@nefcu.com).

[nefcu.com](http://nefcu.com)

FD03/14



# OWNER/BAKER

Private owner from Market in Bakery looking for 700 positions. Looking for an experienced individual for a 24-hour position. Bakery gives the person of food, excellent paid, excellent. Policy experience is plus.

# SALES/CONSUMER

the available a 24-hour sales/consumer - very good as the New Market after initial sales/consumer ideal of request. Full job description for each job at [sevendaysvt.com/classifieds](http://sevendaysvt.com/classifieds).



# EMPLOYEES WANTED!



**CENTURY ARMS, INC**  
is looking to hire!

There are immediate openings for the following shifts: 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and weekend shifts

Born over 50 years ago with our roots in the surplus business, Century Arms has an extensive history of providing unique and affordable products to the American Collector, Hunter, and Target Shooter. We carry on that tradition today with our state of the art manufacturing facility located in the USA, and continue to offer unique, innovative, and quality products to the U.S. Consumer and U.S. Government.

# ASSEMBLERS

# WAREHOUSE ASSOCIATES

# JANITOR

# MACHINE OPERATORS

# E-COMMERCE ADMIN. SUPPORT

# PRODUCTION CONTROL SPECIALIST

# QA AUDITOR

# WELDER

Century offers competitive compensation along with great benefits: health, dental, vision, 401(k), PTO, employer paid life insurance, ancillary insurances, and much more! If you are looking for a great opportunity to work for a World Class and friendly team oriented company, please apply today!

# APPLY WITHIN

**238 BRYCE BLVD, GEORGETOWN, VT 05454**  
(In Arrowhead Industrial Park, off Rt. 104A)

# OR ONLINE AT

**CENTURYARMS.COM**

ALL APPLICANTS MUST PASS A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND A PRE-EMPLOYMENT DRUG SCREENING. WE SUPPORT A DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE AND ENFORCE A ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY FOR DRUGS.



The Arbors at Shelburne is a Benchmark Senior Living Community focused entirely on serving people living with Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and all dementia related diseases.

# LNAs

full time evenings

# NON-LICENSED NURSES' AIDES

full time evenings

Plus evening shift differential of \$2.25/hour

# \$1500 SIGN ON BONUS

Must mention this ad and accept full time evening shift employment to receive the sign on bonus

Please call and ask for Alysha to schedule an interview or stop in to complete an application and on-the-spot interview.

**The Arbors at Shelburne**

Attn: Alysha Curtis

687 Harbor Road

Shelburne, VT 05482

802.985.8600

[acurtis@benchmarkquality.com](mailto:acurtis@benchmarkquality.com)



**WakeRobin**

# Licensed Nursing Assistants

Full-Time Evenings

What you do is important; at least we think so, and our residents agree.

Come to work for Vermont's premier CCRB, and be a part of the community you hoped for.

Wake Robin seeks a dedicated nursing assistant with a strong desire to work within a community of seniors. Wake Robin seeks LNAs licensed in Vermont to provide high quality care in a fast paced residential and long-term care environment, while maintaining a strong sense of "home." We offer higher than average pay including shift differentials, great benefits, a positive working environment, and an opportunity to build strong relationships with staff and residents in a dynamic community setting.

We continue to offer generous shift differential for evenings, nights and weekends!

Interested candidates please email [hr@wake-robin.com](mailto:hr@wake-robin.com) or fax your resume with cover letter to HR, (802) 264-5146.

Wake Robin is an equal opportunity employer.



**RN**

We are a nationally accredited pediatric medical home and we are currently looking for a dynamic RN to do phone triage 4 days a week, 8:30 am - 5:30 pm.

Newsletters, updates on all shifts, competitive wages, health benefits, 401(k), and time off - no on-call. For, family-friendly environment.

Visit our website

[hospitalsolutions.com](http://hospitalsolutions.com).

Email resume to [hr@hsp.com](mailto:hr@hsp.com).

New graduates welcome to apply

# Chancel Choir Director

The First Baptist Church (ABC-US-1) in Burlington, VT, is seeking an experienced choral director to conduct the 15 - 20 voice adult Chancel Choir for worship services on Sunday mornings and rehearsals on Thursday evenings. The Chancel Choir seeks for services beginning the Sunday after Labor Day continuing through mid-June with the summer off. Salary is competitive and negotiable based on experience. Send resume to [fbcbv@sigill.com](mailto:fbcbv@sigill.com).



**Bar Antidote and Hired Hand Brewing** is expanding operations!

**NOW HIRING**  
SOUTHERN CHIEF, LINE COOKS, DISHWASHERS, SERVERS, HOSTS

All new menu, craft made, new beers, local, fresh, fun. Must have a good attitude. Pay based on experience.

Send resumes to [jane@antidote.com](mailto:jane@antidote.com)



## Environmental Services Supervisor

### BURLINGTON, VERMONT

- Lead a housekeeping team and achieve strategic and operational objectives through exceptional Environmental care
- Competitive pay and great benefits
- Sign-on bonus up to \$3,000!

#### Qualified Candidates Will Have

- Associates Degree or equivalent combination of education and experience (health care environment strongly preferred)
- Passion for leadership and development of others; minimum of three years of supervisory experience required

Only online applications will be accepted

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or protected veteran status.

University of Vermont  
MEDICAL CENTER

[UVMHealth.org/MedCenterCareers](http://UVMHealth.org/MedCenterCareers)

## Director of Major and Individual Giving

VPR

Vermont Public Radio has an exciting opportunity for a full-time, detail oriented self-starter who believes in the mission of public radio.

Reporting directly to the Vice President of Development & Marketing, this position works to secure charitable support for annual operations as well as strategic initiatives of the organization.

The Director of Major and Individual Giving will lead and manage VPR's major giving program to help meet the revenue needs of the organization. Over time, the position will also assume responsibility for the strategy of individual giving at all levels.

Come work at VPR, named by Vermont Business Magazine as one of the Best Places to Work in Vermont for the third year in a row! VPR is a statewide network that is widely recognized for excellence in the public radio system.

Visit [digitalcareers.vpr-mission.com](http://digitalcareers.vpr-mission.com) for our mission statement and you will find a full job description in its careers section.

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## MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES

### Security Officer

Responsible for providing ongoing oversight to patient behavior at one of the Madawaska Area's Treatment sites to ensure a safe environment and efficient dosing procedure. Ensure patients are adhering to clinic policy. Appropriate interventions would be necessary. Skills required: good judgment, decision making, setting boundaries, problem solving, being respectful and/or lenient without being authoritarian. Behavior required: maintain patient behavior, appropriate corrective skills, and professional appearance. Full time position with a schedule of Monday to Friday from 5:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. [job ID# 3458](mailto:job ID# 3458)

### Case Manager, Safe Recovery

Provide case management and specialized intervention services to people who inject drugs, or who are at high risk of injection drug use. This includes assessment, service coordination, risk reduction knowledge and skill development. Minimum of high school diploma required. Hiring rate is \$15 per hour. [job ID# 3340](mailto:job ID# 3340)

### Community Outreach Worker

The candidate's primary responsibility is the delivery of street-based outreach services to persons who are homeless and/or with psychiatric disabilities and/or with substance abuse/dependence needs. This is a 30-hour, benefits-eligible position with a Monday to Friday schedule. Hiring rate is \$15 per hour. [job ID# 3349](mailto:job ID# 3349)

## CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES

Howard Center's School Services Program currently has several full- and part-time School Services Clinician positions open throughout Chittenden County. Our program has long-standing partnerships with schools and uses a clinical social work model to offer diagnostic and case management services for students, families and communities. Strong supervisory support is a top priority for the leadership team. Applicants must have backgrounds in social work, psychology or mental health counseling and must be willing to travel to partner locations in social work or a related field. If you are interested in learning more, please apply through the Center's website.

### School Services Supervisor II

Lead and approach clinical work in new ways! School Services is seeking a full-time Supervisor for 11 centers-level School Services Clinicians across their school districts in Chittenden County. Utilize a clinical social work model. Continue to program development and implementation, business and others projects as part of the School Services Leadership Team. Maintain productive relationships with school district and community partners and design and implement staff and parent training as needed. Master's degree in social work, clinical licensure and supervisory as well as school-based mental health experience required. See more details and apply on our website. [job ID# 3485](mailto:job ID# 3485)

### Preschool Teacher

The Winooski Family Center is seeking to hire a Preschool Teacher to join our professional, caring and well trained multidisciplinary team. If you believe that you would thrive in a team-based setting, are comfortable working in both a high-quality state and nationally accredited preschool classroom and diverse community setting, are experienced in working with young children, and desire to participate in a variety of learning opportunities, this position may be a great fit for you. Full-time position is responsible for providing a safe and developmentally appropriate preschool program in accordance with all relevant legislation, policies and procedures. The successful candidate will collaborate with the Winooski School District, Vermont Center Early Childhood programs and families as well as other partners. Bachelor's degree in early childhood education, child development, elementary education or early childhood special education required. Must have a valid Vermont state educator's license and experience and skills related to program implementation. Valid driver's license and vehicle also required. [job ID# 3470](mailto:job ID# 3470)

For more information, please visit [howardcentercareers.org](http://howardcentercareers.org).

Howard Center offers an excellent benefits package including health, dental, and life insurance, as well as generous paid time off for all regular positions scheduled 20-plus-hours-per-week.

Applicants needing assistance or an accommodation in completing the online application should feel free to contact Human Resources at 488-6958 or [helpdesk@howardcenter.org](mailto:helpdesk@howardcenter.org).

**CHEF: Brian Roper**

AGE 41

POSITION dining services general manager, Saint Michael's College

CULINARY TYPE campus dining

EDUCATION Lewis &amp; Clark Community College

SELECTED EXPERIENCE sous-chef, Holiday Inn, Newport; sous-chef, Newport Harbor Hotel, Newport, R.I.; director of Student Computer Center, University of Vermont

WHAT'S ON THE MENU? Grilled chicken Caesar salad, salad-to-order with steamed vegetables, local burgers, chicken potpies, pizza, burgers and fries

the potatoes are done?" I realized that cooking was fun, and I was pretty good at it. After high school, I attended a one-year culinary program and started working at lunch in Connecticut, getting real-life experience.

**SD: What are some of the differences between restaurant and institutional cooking?**

**SR:** It's as much planning and preparation as the execution part is really making sure you have all your mise en place ready to go. You think you're busy serving a couple hundred people in a restaurant one night, but you don't know busy and you're doing 1,000 people in two hours.

Grilled, [every dish is not] cooked to order, but we have seven stations where a chef stands there and cooks

on six burners. When the meal starts, you're not sure what the mix will be. Like, *Is everyone going to go to the grill?*

Today, we're making grilled-chicken Caesar salad. We'll probably do 480 of those, and as people come up, we'll build salads. During the school year, we will wash during lunch. I don't know of any other programs that does that to order. People said I was insane when I wanted to do that, but everyone — kids, staff, professors — loves it.

**SD: How has university cookery changed since you started?**

**SR:** The students are definitely more aware of what they're eating, and many choose to eat healthier. They'll go for plain grilled chicken instead of a chicken patty. Or they'll say, "Keeeee me, can you use pea spray in my peas, instead of oil?" We have nutritional information on the signage [for each dish], and they're paying attention. They ask more questions, and they know food better than you or I did when we were 18 coming into college.

And the local food. Local is probably 25 percent more expensive than conventional, but you do it when you can. We work closely with Black River

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# AL FRESCO DINING

We are celebrating the last few weeks of summer with outdoor dining! All meals available on our patio.

Monday, August 29th through  
Monday, September 5th

## Farm to Dining Hall

Produce and Black River Meats. They'll call and say, "We have a stackpile of 300-gram steaks; we'll give three to you for 30 percent off." Someone [in the kitchen] will say, "That's not on the menu." And I say, "OK, let's change the menu."

I have this willingness to any things that are outside the box — I'm never going to say no because I think it's not going to work. If you don't try, you won't know. And maybe you can't do what you want to do 100 percent, maybe you get to 50, 60, 80, 90 percent. But you're going to get 90 percent if you don't try.

**SB: With this increased emphasis on fresh and local food, have you noticed an impact on student health?**

JK: The classic "freshman 15" [i.e., the notion that freshmen gain 15 pounds after arriving at college] is true, and it's twofold. When you lived at home with your parents, did you have French fries or pizza every day? Also, you're away from home, in a new place with people you don't know. What do you do? You eat.

But there are always healthy and non-healthy choices. If you didn't have burgers, you'd have an uprising. If you didn't have salad bar, there'd be an uprising. I saw the students, and they all were to tell me their favorite thing in the dining hall. And 17 out of 20 students say chicken patty right. I'll ask them about the salad, and they'll say, "Well, the salad is great. But the chicken patty... it's convenient and it's so good and we just love it."

**SB: You've put a lot of energy into getting local food into university kitchens. How did that happen?**

JK: When Fares to Plate started, I was on one of the aggregation and distribution groups. I was at this conference talking with producers about what it takes to get [their produce] into Sodexo. It's price point and availability — and just because you think you have enough product doesn't mean you have enough. You can't come sell to me at my back door. You need to go through the distribution hub.

[WIKI ONLINE] For example, Kimball Brook [Dine] argued dairy came to us five years ago. They wanted de organic milk in glass bottles. They wanted us to recycle and send the bottles back. I was like, "When, that's not going to work on a college campus."

But our partnership with Black River Produce has been great. They're willing

to take a chance on produce that isn't tested and true. And once a producer gets in with them, Black River can sell [their produce] to any business they distribute to.

So a lot of it was relationship building and phone conversations. I was basically looking at administrators from both sides. We made [local] a priority. It was, *Let's incrementally increase local sourcing* — as Black River can handle it, and as the farms can handle it, and as we can afford it.

**SB: What's next for institutional food? Where's all this headed?**

JK: I don't know where it's headed, but the local piece will definitely continue to grow. Some won't built in a day, so we're not going to get to 10, 40, 50 percent local food overnight. But this movement from farms to institutions is only growing, and I think you're going to see more money being spent in the next three, five, 10 years. You can't really look just that because things change, but I don't see that going away, ever.

**SB: How important is consumer education?**

JK: It is so much more important than anyone could ever possibly imagine. When you [place signs] in the dining hall, maybe 10 percent of the people read it. But if there's a picture showing the grower, people pay attention. To say that a picture [is worth] 1,000 words is a cliché, but it's so true it's not even funny. Place [a picture] where the food is being served, and people start asking questions. You can hear the passion in their voice.

**SB: It's Sunday night, and you're relaxing over a drink. Where are you and what are you drinking?**

JK: I am home with my wife and kids. Maybe having a scotch. Day-to-day, you want hard and a lot, so family is really important. Depending on the time of year, we grow corn and chicken and veggies. So if you can celebrate family and food together, and teach your kids the value of real food, that's fantastic.

**SB: When you're not working, any hobbies?**

JK: If I'm not working or with family, I'm out hiking. ☐

*This interview has been edited and condensed. An extended version is available online at [sevendayvt.com/feed](http://sevendayvt.com/feed).*

Contact: [kenneth@sevendayvt.com](mailto:kenneth@sevendayvt.com)

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# calendar

AUGUST 31-SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

## WED. 31

### act/inclm

**FIGHT FOR FIFTEEN:** Jake Bernstein is looking to raise the minimum wage to \$15 an hour. *Blackberry Field Library, Arlington Heights. Free. Info: 848-0460/10460.*

### arts

**LIFE DRAWING:** Penelope is a model inspired artist to create. *Integrated Learning, The Point, Montpelier. 6:30-8 p.m. \$8. Info: 839-5394.*

### comedy

**WAX JOURNALISM'S MEGAREVOLUTION:** The award-winning and award-winning comedy duo that has taken the world by storm. *Philly Harbinger, Burlington. 8 p.m. \$40-25-60-75. Info: 848-0460.*

### crafts

**KNITTING & NEEDLEWORKS:** Crafts classes for everyone. *Barnes Community Library, Colchester. 6 p.m. Free. Info: 884-9553.*

### dance

**DROP-IN HIP-HOP DANCE:** Beginners are welcome. *Highland Cultural Center, 1000 Highland Drive, South Burlington. 6-7:30 p.m. \$5-10. Info: 848-0460.*

**ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE CLASSES:** Val Moore leads workshops in the social dance popular in the time of Jane Austen. *Richmond Free Library. 7 p.m. \$5. Info: 850-2278.*

### film

**AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE:** Donating blood gets you a gift of life. *CRS Community Outreach Office, Woburn. 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Please arrive: Squid Ink or Free. pre-reg: info: 808-750-7887.*

**RED LIGHT & SCIENCE FICTION:** An indie night. *Movie theater, 1000 Highland Drive, South Burlington. 8 p.m. \$10-15. Info: 848-0460.*

**HISTORICAL TROLLEY TOURS OF BURLINGTON:** Ride in style while learning facts about the Green City. *Burlington Trolley Tours, 1000 Highland Drive, South Burlington. 10 a.m., noon, 2-3 p.m. \$8-10. Info: 848-0460.*

**WASHOE RISE WEDNESDAY:** *Washoe Valley, explore the working day farm via the time-travel method of engine competition. 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*

**Musical, Wednesday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 34-44. Info: 848-0460.**

### film

**WELL:** Gaga's *Joanne* starts as the half-black daughter of a black woman who plays as the daughter of a white woman. *Williams, Burlington. 10:00 a.m. Info: 848-0460.*

**VETERAN AND JAMES:** A collection of stories by John G. Gurnea, a collection of his own personal stories and a day in the life of a veteran. *Williams, Burlington. 10:00 a.m. Info: 848-0460.*

### food & drink

**COMMUNITY SUPPER:** A community supper connects friends and neighbors. *Philly Harbinger, Burlington. 5-6:45 p.m. Free. Info: 848-0460.*

**VENUE: THE VENUE:** A collection of stories by John G. Gurnea, a collection of his own personal stories and a day in the life of a veteran. *Williams, Burlington. 10:00 a.m. Info: 848-0460.*

### fitness

**WHEELS CLUB:** A collection of stories by John G. Gurnea, a collection of his own personal stories and a day in the life of a veteran. *Williams, Burlington. 10:00 a.m. Info: 848-0460.*

### health & fitness

**EPIC HANGOVERS:** A collection of stories by John G. Gurnea, a collection of his own personal stories and a day in the life of a veteran. *Williams, Burlington. 10:00 a.m. Info: 848-0460.*

**WEIGHT LOSS:** A collection of stories by John G. Gurnea, a collection of his own personal stories and a day in the life of a veteran. *Williams, Burlington. 10:00 a.m. Info: 848-0460.*

**INTERACTION TO TALK:** A collection of stories by John G. Gurnea, a collection of his own personal stories and a day in the life of a veteran. *Williams, Burlington. 10:00 a.m. Info: 848-0460.*

**WHEELS CLUB:** A collection of stories by John G. Gurnea, a collection of his own personal stories and a day in the life of a veteran. *Williams, Burlington. 10:00 a.m. Info: 848-0460.*

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# CAT TRACKS

Kenna Rubino is rolling into town, and here is where you want to see her. The Brooklyn-based singer just released her second album, *Blackberry Field*, which has been praised by both NPR and Pitchfork, the latter calls the collection "all about looking beyond boundaries." The music is polished, soulful and sharp. "Rubino goes deep inside her psyche on *Blackberry Field*," adds Pitchfork, "as she explores a world that has promised ideas about how she should be, and questions her place outside of it."

**KENNA RUBINO**  
Thursday, September 1  
8:30 p.m. at ArtLab in  
Burlington. \$10-12. Info:  
848-0460.

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### CALENDAR EVENTS IN SEVEN DAYS

LISTINGS AND COUPONS ARE WRITTEN BY GABE WILLIAMS. COUPON DAYS: TUESDAY FOR SPACE AND SPECIAL, WEDNESDAY FOR COUPON AND OTHER ACTIONS. CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS MAY BE LISTED IN EITHER THE CALENDAR OR THE CLASSIFIED SECTION. WHEN APPROPRIATE, CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE ADDED TO THE CALENDAR.

SEPT 1 MUSIC

## SEP. 7 | FILM



REMBRANDT: FROM THE NATIONAL GALLERY, LONDON, & RIJKSMUSEUM, AMSTERDAM.

Monday, September 7  
6 a.m. at Towson Theatre  
Middlebury 5010 Info 302-255-0222 [owenmiddlebury.org](http://owenmiddlebury.org)

### A Day at the Museum

The National Gallery in London and Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam recently hosted an exhibit of Rembrandt's works that focused on paintings he created later in life. Most of us probably didn't catch that show across the pond, but Towson Hall Theater in Middlebury is kindly screening a production that takes viewers on a virtual gallery tour. Expect a lot of biography on the Dutch master along with notes on each painting from curators and art historians.

## In Session

Fall is fast approaching, and college students aren't the only ones going back to class. The University of Vermont's nearby Community Medical School, which opens with a lecture by oncologist Scott Perrapato Tuesday, offers five public lectures on a variety of topics. Perrapato will *dig into a discussion of innovations in the field of prostate cancer*. In coming months, an array of professionals will discuss everything from disease prevention to medical addiction. You don't have to be a med student or practitioner to go, these talks are specifically tailored for general audiences.

### COMMUNITY MEDICAL SCHOOL: SCOTT PERRAPATO

Tuesday, September 8, 6-8:30 a.m., at Carpenter Auditorium, Green Medical Building, University of Vermont, 100 Washington, Info: 802-255-5555 [umv.edu](http://umv.edu)



## SEP. 6 | TALKS

## SEP. 4 | FAIRS & FESTIVALS



## Home Sweet Home

These days, when it comes to buying a home, it seems like the motto is "thick and small." That's what the tiny-house movement is all about, anyway. These ultracompact lodgings, often between 100 and 400 square feet (compared to the average 2,600-square-foot home), are touted as environmentally and economically wise investments. The thought of living in what some might consider a closet may seem unappealing, but most denizens of these minuscule dwellings go to great lengths to trick them out. See the results for yourself at the Tiny House Fest Vermont in Brattleboro. There will be tours, classes to explore, build-your-own courses, panels, vendors, demos and more.

### TINY HOUSE FEST VERMONT

Sunday, September 4, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., at 28 Rut St. in Brattleboro  
55-90 Info: 454-0500. See Facebook.

# SEPTEMBER

**Ahi Tuna Tartar**  
mushrooms, guacamole, Asian pear,  
chili-yuzu dressing

**Tom Cat Negroni**

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## calendar

SEP 21 to 28

**WEDNESDAY YOGA:** Great for sun-soaked grunting and energizing familiar affirmations. The Wellness Collective Burlington, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. \$45-\$65.

**IRA THERAPY:** Explore music and movement drawn from healing, medicinal, and ancient practices to an ancient sacred music. Soundful Studio, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. Free for the first two weeks. Info: 224-7070.

**RECOVERY COMMUNITY YOGA:** A stretching class for athletes from both professional and recreational backgrounds. Training: Total Center, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

**ALPACA:** Experience alpaca power against risk, adversity and diet advice from high-influencer physical therapist. South End Studio, Burlington, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. \$20-\$30.

**TAI CHI FOR ALL:** Dr. Lina Lina offers tai chi classes, weaving mind, body, and spirit in moving meditations. Jinsha Tai Chi, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. \$10-\$15.

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT KUNG FU:** Kung fu is the good vibrations of jumps, twists and algebras—making new friends to get you through the week. The Wellness Collective, Burlington, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. \$10. Info: 224-7070.

**YOGA ON THE DOCK:** Healthy bodies, jump start the day at a serene outdoor practice with sounds of waves. Community Yoga Center, Burlington, 7-8 a.m. \$10. Info: 881-8542.

### Local

**SEASIDE LOVES ART:** Young love of all ages explores contemporary art and local artists. Seaside Loves Art, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. \$10-\$15. Info: 224-7070.

**STRAWBERRY:** Survey their waterways from perspective of water and a naturalist. Callie's Coffee, Little River State Park, Burlington, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Free. Info: 224-7070.

**YOGA FOR ALL:** Practice yoga, dance and art. Seaside Loves Art, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. \$10-\$15. Info: 224-7070.

### Language

**SENIOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASS:** Students build a foundation on reading, speaking and writing. Redwood Tree Library, Burlington, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Free. Info: 224-7070.

**SENIOR RUSSIAN CONVERSATION CLASS:** Learn the basics of the Russian language. Redwood Tree Library, Burlington, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Free. Info: 224-7070.

**INTERMEDIATE RUSSIAN CONVERSATION GROUP:** Practice your Russian skills in a conversational setting. Redwood Tree Library, Burlington, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Free. Info: 224-7070.

**INTERMEDIATE-LEVEL SPANISH CLASS:** Practice your Spanish skills in a conversational setting. Redwood Tree Library, Burlington, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Free. Info: 224-7070.

**INTERMEDIATE-LEVEL ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASS:** Practice your English skills in a conversational setting. Redwood Tree Library, Burlington, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. Free. Info: 224-7070.

**CITY HALL CONCERT SERIES: DASHY LIND:** The world's most popular group of jazz artists in a stellar performance. Burlington City Hall, 8 p.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

### Outdoors

**THE MUSIC OF BIRD PROTECTION:** A new method of bird protection. Soundful Studio, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

### Arts

**THE MUSIC OF BIRD PROTECTION:** A new method of bird protection. Soundful Studio, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

**George Brice, David and more South Burlington Community Library (800-301-1111) Free. Info: 881-8542.**

### Arts

**AND MORE BIRD PROTECTION:** A new method of bird protection. Soundful Studio, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

**BURLINGTON HILL HOUSE BARN:** A new method of bird protection. Soundful Studio, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

**BURLINGTON HILL HOUSE BARN:** A new method of bird protection. Soundful Studio, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

**WOMEN'S PICKUP BASKETBALL:** A new method of bird protection. Soundful Studio, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

### Arts

**ALL-STAR BOW:** A new method of bird protection. Soundful Studio, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

**YOGA ON THE DOCK:** A new method of bird protection. Soundful Studio, Burlington, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Free. Info: 881-8542.

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## HEALTHY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Participate in a research study and help develop a vaccine against Dengue Fever



- Healthy adults, ages 18 - 50
- One-year vaccine study
- Earn up to \$2430 in compensation

Call 802-656-0012 for more info and to schedule a screening. Leave your name, number, and a good time to call back.

Email [UVMVTC@UVM.EDU](mailto:UVMVTC@UVM.EDU) or visit [UVMVTC.ORG](http://UVMVTC.ORG)



VERMONTVTC.COM

802-656-0012

UVMVTC

UVMVTC

## new! obsessed?

Find fix and feather with **Next Notes** — an e-newsletter filled with home design, Vermont real estate tips and DIY decorating inspirations.



Sign up today at [sevenfiftyvt.com/news](http://sevenfiftyvt.com/news)

## calendar

Fri 2/10/12

**FOUR CORNERS FARMERS MARKET** Local produce, specialty foods, handmade crafts, and more. 1000 Main St., Burlington, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info: [www.fourcornersmarket.org](http://www.fourcornersmarket.org)

**FOODIES FARMERS MARKET** Local produce, specialty foods, handmade crafts, and more. 1000 Main St., Burlington, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info: [www.farmersmarket.org](http://www.farmersmarket.org)

**WINDMILL FARMERS MARKET** Local produce, specialty foods, handmade crafts, and more. 1000 Main St., Burlington, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info: [www.windmillfarmersmarket.org](http://www.windmillfarmersmarket.org)

### general

**RENTAL CAR** See [www.rentacar.com](http://www.rentacar.com) for more info. 1000 Main St., Burlington, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info: [www.rentacar.com](http://www.rentacar.com)

### health & fitness

**LAURENCE YOGA** Ashtanga, vinyasa, and more. 1000 Main St., Burlington, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info: [www.laurenceyoga.com](http://www.laurenceyoga.com)

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### theater

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**OVER THE EDGE FOR THE FLYING** Aerial stunts, acrobatics, and more. 1000 Main St., Burlington, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info: [www.overtheedge.org](http://www.overtheedge.org)

**REARVIEW MIRROR: A CELEBRATION OF A** A film about the history of the rearview mirror. 1000 Main St., Burlington, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Free. Info: [www.rearviewmirror.org](http://www.rearviewmirror.org)

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# Walk, walk fashion baby...

SEVEN DAYS

# STRUT

AN ART HOP FASHION SHOW

**Designers include**

- Abigail Fleming
- Aiden Erickson
- Call of The Wardrobe Clothing Company
- Campbell Whalen
- Eric Rickmann
- FinLily
- Lisa Lefbridge & Elizabeth Gunn
- Little Artzy Faces
- The Lyme Lou Line
- Margaret Jacobs Art
- Megan Mahoney's Designs
- Meghan Jean
- Nedie Shorel, Ned's
- Jenna B
- Joy Choquette, Joy Creates
- Zoe Greer

**Styling**

Pure Beauty VT  
Hair by Sequoia Salon

**SATURDAY,  
SEPTEMBER 10**

2 runway shows at  
6:30 and 8:30 p.m.  
featuring new looks  
by local designers

In the tent behind  
the Maltex Building  
451 Pine Street,  
Burlington, \$15

Food vendors, beer  
and wine available

**Strut Director & Coordinator**  
Gina Tron

**Hosts**

Mike Curkov and Meghan Carpenter  
from Local 22 & Local 44

**DJ**

Robbie Rapelski



• STRUT is the only ticketed event at Art Hop and sells out fast!  
Buy your tickets online today at [seaba.com](http://seaba.com).





## Is it your time to quit?

VCBH is here to help

The Vermont Center on Behavior and Health is conducting a study to help mothers quit smoking. With your participation, you could earn up to \$1,380.

If you have at least one child under the age of 13, you may qualify for this study.

To see if you qualify, go online to <http://mp/LMSDgeE> to take our online survey or call (802) 656-1906 to learn more about this study.



(802) 656-1906 <http://j.mp/LMSDgeE>

Vermont Center on Behavior & Health  
A Division of Vermont



## PATIO DOOR SALE

Take **\$125 OFF**  
Installed Patio Doors

Now through 05/15/16

Financing Available



**ACME GLASS** 26 PEARL ST. BURLINGTON 221-6284

## SEVEN DAYS *tickets*

### EVENTS ON SALE NOW

THIS WEEK



**Xenia Rubinos**  
THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 1  
ARTIST BURLINGTON

THIS WEEK



**Paint: A Drag Cabaret**  
COOAR SEPTEMBER 2  
ARTIST BURLINGTON

THIS WEEK



**Ola Fresca**  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 3  
ARTIST BURLINGTON



**Burlington Book Festival Benefit**  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 10  
LYNN GAVIS CENTER LOBBY BALLROOM, BURLINGTON



**Boyden Valley Winery Harvest Festival**  
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12  
BOYDEN VALLEY WINERY, CAMBRIDGE

### SELLING TICKETS?

- Fundraisers •
- Festivals
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### WE CAN HELP!

- No cost to you
- Local support
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**SEVENDAYSTICKETS.COM**

## Memory care and more...

A new senior living community specializing in caring for people with Alzheimer's, dementia and memory impairment

We offer individualized, 24-hour support for those who need everything from assisted entrances to those who need a high level of care.

- Large, airy shared or private suites
- Full restaurant with memory care
- Medication and housekeeping management
- 24-hour safety monitoring
- Physical, occupational and speech therapy
- Aging in place, including end of life care

We pride ourselves in providing an affordable site, caring home like atmosphere.



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330-1201, info@nature.com

**NATURE HAZARD JR./JTM**

On average, each senior will take down 100 pounds of trash from the streets. Through the project, students will gain an understanding of the importance of recycling and how to reduce waste. Students will also learn about the importance of recycling and how to reduce waste. Students will also learn about the importance of recycling and how to reduce waste.

**Nature****SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPE**

**STUDENTS:** A group of students will be working on a project to create a sustainable landscape. The project will involve creating a garden that is both beautiful and functional. The garden will be designed to be self-sustaining and to provide a habitat for local wildlife.

**meditation****LEARN TO MEDITATE**

Through the practice of sitting still and following your breath in and out, you can learn to focus your mind and reduce stress. This class is designed for students who are new to meditation and want to learn the basics of the practice.

**pets****HEALTHY ANIMAL HEALTH**

**ONLINE:** A group of students will be working on a project to create a healthy animal. The project will involve creating a garden that is both beautiful and functional. The garden will be designed to be self-sustaining and to provide a habitat for local wildlife.

**SHAMBALE LEVEL: THE ART OF BEING HUMAN**

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**pilates****CORE STRENGTH CLASSES**

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DEALING WITH

## music

**M**usic festivals come to be for a number of reasons, from love of a particular genre or band to the simple quest to make a buck. Randolph's New World Festival was born out of a different motive: to give solace to a community reeling from disaster. Over an 18-month period in 1990-1991, Randolph lost 60 percent of its downtown retail buildings to a series of devastating fires. From the ashes rose the NWF, which this Sunday celebrates its 24th year of bringing Celtic, Cajun and Québécois music to Randolph's downtown.

Kevin Darwoody, whose Lost Mountain Bookstore was consumed by one of those fires, recalls that the NWF started with a devastated community that wanted to rise above its negative emotions and celebrate its strengths.

"The feeling was that we needed a party," he says with a chuckle.

At the time, the Chandler Maine Hall was waking from a period of relative slumber, and its new board wanted to show the community the venue's potential. Tim Flynn, a prior board member, had just returned from an Irish music festival, which he thought might be a great way to bring some cheer to town. Flynn asked Darwoody if he thought such a festival would fly.

"I said, 'I think it will, but we have to create the French Québécois,'" recalls Darwoody. He had seen Québécois music at the Champlain Valley Folk Festival and fallen in love with it.

Flynn agreed, and the New World Festival was born. Darwoody jumped on board, along with a number of other locals, including Dick Drysdale, publisher of the Herald of Randolph. The Chandler Music Hall served as both venue and organizational hub.

Many first-year music festivals struggle to attract a crowd, but that was not the case with NWF Québécois musicians and Vermont native Dana Whittle, who designed the festival's first logo and has supported it as a performer and volunteer ever since, explains that an undercurrent of attendance led to a creative solution in ticketing.

"We printed the tickets on stickers you could attach to your clothes," she says. "By the end of the day we were running out, and we had to rip the stickers in half."

After that first year, Darwoody settled in as the festival's official music director. He continued the focus on music from what he calls the North Atlantic Rim, the British Isles, the Canadian Maritimes, Québec, the northeastern U.S. and the western region of northwestern France. In the beginning he booked mostly local acts, including Woods 'n' Co. and Martha Williams. Later, Darwoody says, budgets grew and allowed him to bring in more national and international acts.

## I THINK THAT FOCUSING ON THE CELTIC AND FRENCH TRADITIONS MAKES THE FESTIVAL VERY STRONG.

DANA WHITTLE



Carling

## Forged in FIRE



Lara Proulx & Collin

Randolph's New World Festival celebrates its 24th year

BY GARY LEE MILLER

# S UNd bites

BY DAN BELLIS



MAGNOLIA

## The Main Squeeze

Say this for **MAGNOLIA**: They don't do anything half-slow.

Since their debut performance at the (last?) great local music fest the Precipice in 2014 — when they were called **PLATE GARS** — everything the psych-pop phenoms have uncovered to date has been done with neon paranoia and smirches. When they released their phenomenal debut album, *The Dance*, in 2015, they didn't just (know a release party). They took over Burlington's City Hall. They followed that up with a blowout bash at the ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain. Then, earlier this year, on a snowy night in April, they invaded the Champlain Valley Exposition to put on *Melinda*. The four **MARK SALT** and company don't play their hometown especially often (but when they do, they don't mess around).

That trend continues this week. On Sunday, September 4, *Melinda* host *Melinda* on Miles, a daylong, three-stage music festival on Main Street between South Winslow Avenue and Church Street. Yes, on Main Street. The band, with the aid of the fine folks at Nectar's, is shutting down the black in front of the house. That *main* *black*. Incidentally, the last performer to shut down Main Street on Burlington? **MAGNOLIA**.

**TRUMP**: There's a blurb for the ol' green lot, huh?

Aside from the amount of orange likely to be onstage this Sunday, *Melinda*'s fest has absolutely nothing in common with Trump's Queen City visit. What it does have is a staggering amount of great music, especially for a Sunday in Burlington. (Don't worry, that's Labor Day weekend, so most of you are in the clear to sleep in on Monday.)

Kicking things off on the outdoor stage are the **PITCHBLAKE BROS BAND**, a Franklin-based ensemble that fuses hip-hop with New Orleans second line. Like several of the bigger names on the bill, they've made several stops in Burlington in recent years and have a sizable local following. Like who, you ask? How about **MARC BENVENISTE**, who follows **PMBP**.

Thanks to his time in the **MINIVENTS** **MAGNOLIA** band and **ART BURNETT ALMOST DEAD** and tearing with the likes of **TRIP ANASTASIS** and **WIDE ORSON**, among others, the multi-instrumentalist is a darling of the jam scene. But there's far more to Benveniste than those heady

credits suggest. Witness his latest solo album, *The Story of Fred Short*, released in April. The cool kids at Brooklyn's Virgin rightly called the record "bold indie rock." It's a gem.

Speaking of bold indie rock, belonging the penultimate act outside to **LAM LAM**. The onetime *Teen* singer has been a local favorite since she was making quirky bedroom tapes in Brunswick, Maine, and playing underground shows in Burlington. Now she's based in Brooklyn and has justly become a critical darling and rising star. To wit, the last time LL played VT was as a headliner at *Waking Windows* 6. The time before that was to open for the **DECEMBERS** at the Shelburne Museum last summer. So, yeah. She's doing all right.

Of course, the outdoor stage headliners are *Melinda*. And why not? They're having the damn thing. Also, they're home on a nice little run of their own lately. The band recently signed to Madison House, a well-respected national booking agency. They're also backed with a boutique publicity outfit in New York City called *Mintage Media*.

SOUND BITES BY P.J.

For up-to-the-minute news about the local music scene, follow **@liveculture** on Twitter or read the Live Culture blog [sevendaysvt.com/liveculture](http://sevendaysvt.com/liveculture)



# HIGHER GROUND

THU  
8.26

## Getter Wuki

FRI  
8.31

## Waka Flecko Flame

R. Waka Flecko

FRI  
8.02

## Butch Walker

Butch Walker &amp; The Walkabouts

SAT  
8.19

## The 5th PopUp Queer Pride Ball

SUN  
8.11

## The English Beat

SUN  
8.11

## Vindaveer

TUES  
8.13

## of Montreal

Nag N. P. P. P. P.

WED  
8.14

## August Burns Red

August Burns Red &amp; The Other

THU  
8.15

## Pink Talking Fish

MON  
8.12

## Dead & Company

Dead &amp; Company &amp; The Other

FRI  
8.18

## The Infamous Stringdusters

The Infamous Stringdusters

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An Evening of Music, Comedy, and Comedy - G. Thomas

Three in Music: Cassanova, percussion 8/14

Fouring, that's right, 5/14/14, piano 8/14

Leif's debut 8/14

James M. Jones, 8/14, 8/14

Monika Tull, guitar 10/17

Gay Men's Ensemble 10/17

Talks from the Forgotten Kingdom 10/17

Protein Quartet 10/17

Los Caballeros 10/18

Lowest Possible Piano Duo 10/18

Mike Casey - One and the Whole 10/18

The World of Moby Dick 10/18

ATC: The 10/18

The Band Ensemble 10/18

A Cape Cod Holiday Concert with Greg 10/18

Taylor, Greg and Kelly, featuring Livingston Taylor 10/18

Tom Dugan 10/18

Drew Weiss 10/18

Beats & Notes 10/18

Mythen Future Quartet, 10/18

with Frank Vigorelli, guitar 10/18

Reverend David, with 10/18, 10/18 10/18

James Schenck's Contemporary All-Seeing Percussion 10/18

Baronberry March 10/18

Ladywell Black Mountain 10/18

ETB: 10/18, 10/18 10/18

Ensemble: 10/18, 10/18 10/18

Stefan Harris, soprano 10/18

Bumper Jackson 10/18

Three Women and the Truth - 10/18, 10/18 10/18

Seattle Percussion, 10/18, 10/18 10/18

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## music

### Forged In Fire

The 2006 New World Festival shines a spotlight on Acadian and Cajun music and will feature some of the most respected and beloved performers in the genre. Among those to "Acadian power star" Victor, who had from the Prince Edward Island/Magdalen Islands region of the Canadian Maritimes. Founded in 2004, Victor is known for employing instruments from fiddle and bodhran to electric guitar, along with powerful vocal harmonies, the group creates stunning arrangements of traditional Acadian tunes. Victor's album *End Earth* was the winner of *Acadian/Traditional Group Recording of the Year* at this year's East Coast Music Awards in Cape Breton.

Another big name this year is the Yves Lambert Trio. In 1979, accordionist and singer Lambert cofounded La Belle Musique, one of the most revered contemporary Québécois groups. His current trio includes younger musicians Tommy Gauthier on fiddle and Olivier Boudreau on guitar.

As always, Westcoasters will play a big role in the festival. Green Mountain Cajun contributions this year include quartet Yalobee Chuck, as well as a duo composed of Alec Edwards and Katie Truitt — now the director of Chandler Center for the Arts.

From the start, the NWF has benefited a good cause: youth programming at the Chandler Farming, the festival has come to feature a number of young performers. Among them this year are Les Proulx a Cajun, whose five members grow up playing trad tunes in Québec's mountainous rural Lanaudière region.

The region has served as a pipeline for NWF talent, thanks in part

to Whittle, who lives in the small Lanaudière town of Saint-Étienne. This year, she's hoping to bring members of Tradition, a collective of Québécois musicians, dancers and singers. Whittle will perform, too, as part of Zigue, a duo with her husband, David Claude Méthé, and with Tradition for the festival's live-on-stage.

Like every year, NWF will offer 31 hours of music on five all-weather stages. And, while most groups perform in their usual configurations, they also mix it up. The slate includes two jam sessions. One features a mix of festival performers; the other is open to anyone who wants to join in. In addition, says Whittle, it's possible some unexpected Québécois musicians could show up.

"It's the end of the summer festival season," she says. "A lot of musicians may come down just for fun."

Whittle believes the NWF is successful because of its specificity. "I think that focusing on the Cajun and French traditions makes the festival very strong," she says. "A lot of fall festivals try to be very dynamic and present things for many different tastes, and it's harder to pull that off year after year."

Many artists return to the Randolph fest "to see the friends they've made over the years," Whittle observes.

Denise says she's glad the single-day format gives the NWF more punch. "It is so intense," he says. "I've heard people talk about musical overload. We make that it's like a big festival. It shows up for one day, and that's it." ☐

### INFO

The New World Festival is Sunday September 4, 4-8 p.m. at Chandler House Hall in Randolph. 520-40 newworldfestival.com



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# SOUNDbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 35

Jon McCallough and Brian Clark with Big Heavy Metals' demolition derby car



It will undoubtedly help to spread the gospel of Madala in the ensuing months when their sophomore album, *Traces*, hits our collectively eager ears—likely in late October.

I've heard it, and I'm awfully excited for y'all to check it out, too. In the meantime, maybe swing over to our arts blog, *Live Culture*, and check out the premiere of "Nurture," the second single off *Traces*. By the way, our new senior music editor, **JOSHUA ADAMS**, penned that post. You'll be seeing his byline quite often from now on.

Moving on — and welcome — following Madala's set, the party heads inside to Rector's and Club Monoceros. Downstairs, catch **SMALLTALK**, a side project from the *SWANSON* twins crew, a Pittsburgh native, the omnipresent **WATSON** and a set from **FINHAKA**, which is a hybrid of Madala and *Traces*, led by the latter's **WENDY CARROLL**.

Upstairs, it's *Northampton's* **LOVEJOY**, coming in support of their latest record, *It's a Girl*. The ever-provocative **MC WU**, led by **JACK MONROE** (aka **MC MONROE**) will also be in attendance, alongside **JAM MITCHELL**'s Blue. **WW6** headliners **DAVEY CRIST** round out the live portion of the evening, with a *Traces* spinning into the wee smalls.

Oh, and this just in, I have it on good authority that a time-traveling disco band called the **DISCOGLASS** — who are definitely not Madala's —

have canceled a leg of their European tour and may surprise with a set on Main Street. Stay tuned.

## BiteTorrent

That all sounds like a lot of fun, right? Well, readers of a certain vintage may find they have a difficult decision to make on Sunday. That's because, while Madala and friends are basking this day on rock and roll — and art pop, brassy hip-hop, etc. — over at the Champlain Valley Fair there is a show of monumentally epic proportions: *The I Love the '60s Tour*, featuring **RAMBLA ICE**, **WALT IN PEPA**, **LEGION HE RABD**, **COLORED TONES** and **YOUNG MC**.

If you had told 13-year-old me that any of these acts would be playing in

Vermont, I would have flinched. If you had told me they would be playing together and at the *frankin'* fair, my trompbopping heart would have exploded. Well, I'm in my late thirties, and I'm still feeling those palpitations — though that might just be an excess of fruit dough.

Now, can this show possibly be anything other than embarrassing for everyone involved? Doubtful. Do I care? Of course not! The question is this: Madala or the '60s?

For fellow aging hipsters grappling with life's tough choices, I look at it this way: Do you want to go see a group of phenomenally talented young people grabbing life by the horns and subsequently get depressed about your rampant youth? Or do you want to go and see a bunch of well-past-their-prime pay stars and subsequently get depressed because you so vividly remember their heyday (how do the running man)? The choice is yours.

Last but not least, we have more proof that Big Heavy World is the coolest. On Thursday, September 1, the audio dog producers will realize a dream some 20 years in the making: Simulating the ever-lasting heydays out of old cars. That night, BHW is entering a car in the Demolition Derby at the Champlain Valley Fair. It's a 1976 Chevy Nova, powered up by local artists **SMITH** and **MIAN CLARK**. Piloting the rig is an MC/producer of the local hardcore punk band **ADAMANT**.

Incidentally, I'm pretty sure Color Me Badd's tour vehicle is also a '78 Nova. Here's hoping they don't park on the wrong spot at the Tops. ☺



Seth H. Payne

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## Listening In

A peek at what was on my iPod, turntable, cassette deck and car stereo. Follow weekly playlists with lyrics by artists featured in the album (2012-13).

**TURNING**, Live on After Dark  
**COLIN HE RABD**, *CHAS*  
**RAMBLA ICE**, *The I Love the '60s Tour*  
**ROUND MC**, *Blue*  
**WALT IN PEPA**, *And Color Me Badd*

## WED. 31

## burlington

**WEEKENDERS CAFE & CIGAR**  
The **WEEKENDERS** 8 p.m.-1 a.m.

**THE DAILY PLANET** 8 p.m.-1 a.m.  
8 p.m. [rock] 9 p.m. [rock]

**FLAMINGO SPEAKERS-V.I.**  
Loud top line 10 p.m.

**J.P.F.R.** Pub Date with **Greedy** 7 p.m. [rock] Karaoke with **Greedy** 10 p.m. [rock]

**JUNPES** Elian Powell 10 p.m. [rock] 11 p.m. [rock]

**LEONARD BENTON & CAPT.** [rock] 10 p.m. [rock] 11 p.m. [rock]

**LEAF CLAM LAMP** 10 p.m.-1 a.m.  
Sessions 7 p.m. [rock] Ryan

**Monday** 10 p.m. [rock] 11 p.m. [rock]

**FLIGHT** 10 p.m. [rock] 11 p.m. [rock]

**MAINTAIN PIZZA & PUB**  
Open late with **Andy** 10 p.m. [rock]

**MEET** 10 p.m. [rock] 11 p.m. [rock]

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THU 1 & FRI 2 11 WAKA FLOORA FLAME (HIP-HOP)

## Flame Thrower

WAKA FLOORA FLAME grew up around hip-hop royalty. His neighbors in his native Queens included Jay-Z and LL Cool J's grandmother. His cousin was friendly with the Last Days. But WVF never considered becoming a rapper. It wasn't until his family moved to an Atlanta suburb and his mother, now the CEO of Merry Entertainment, began running Gucci Mane that the flames began to flare. Since then, he's become one of the biggest and most controversial figures in hip-hop, equally feared for his impetuous takes "O Let's Do It" and "Blood in the Face" as for ribs with Method Man and Mase. Waka Floora Flame plays a two-night run this Thursday and Friday, September 1 and 2, at the Higher Ground Ballroom in South Burlington. **THU 10:00-11:00 p.m.**

## childtender county

**WAKA FLOORA FLAME**  
Waka Floora Flame 10 p.m.-11 p.m. [rock] 11 p.m. [rock]

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# REVIEW *this*

## David Rosane & the Zookeepers, *Urban Country*

(SELF-RELEASED, CD, DIGITAL, DOWNLOAD)

In explaining his band's latest album, *Urban Country*, singer David Rosane goes as far as Cheshire: "Man will become better when you show him what he is." He then adds this line — presumably his own and not the fictional Russian words: "Yeah. They can keep their happy music!"

Rosane, who splits his time between Vermont and Paris, France, is the dean of the institutional rock band David Rosane & the Zookeepers. As evidenced by the group's previous record, *Modern Folk*, released earlier this year (the former Cornell University teacher and activist has a predilection for exposing societal

folks). Wrapped in the tattered cloth of folk-pop, the album was a fiery whorl of conservatism, nationalism, exceptionalism and any number of other sins.

*Urban Country* is a thematic sequel to *Modern Folk*. (It, as Rosane describes it, "the postmodern deconstruction of human-nature dualism. Whatever! Whatever, indeed.")

As on *Modern Folk*, Rosane generally takes aim at the dichotomy that is our reliance on the Earth and our seemingly unending quest to destroy her. Prior to

moving to France, Rosane worked with Cornell in the Amazon for a decade as an ecologist. It's his view that most of the world's sociopolitical ills can be traced to the harm we cause the ecosystem.

This worldview is most apparent on album closer "Earth." The song alludes to the book *Remembering Eden*, by the neo-feminist Carolyn Merchant. It's a darkly pessimistic song in which Rosane, sounding like a cross between Joe Henry and Mark Knopfler, waxes around the idea of femininity as a metaphor for the Earth. The theme is repeated in *under* — and last episode — ways throughout the album, as on opener "Silver Cotton" which bemoans the commodification of natural resources.

But Rosane is not apocalyptic, and he touches on plenty of less global issues. "Steps," which features Vermonters Will

Patten on drums, is a touching tale of saving a redwood as a parent. "Are We Mad?" is a raucy take on a classic Bob Marley song. "Love the life you live. Love the life you love."

At its core, *Urban Country* is a musical expression of outrage and protest. But for all of Rosane's hyperintellectual agitation, he has also a keen sense of empathy. This worldly compassion doesn't so much soften his pointed warnings as it humanizes them. Ultimately, Rosane understands he's as flawed, flawed to the rest of us.

*Urban Country* by David Rosane & the Zookeepers is available at davidandthecoatheadcamp.com. The band plays album release shows this Friday, September 2, at the Coltrane East in Bradford and on Saturday, September 3, at Big Jay Tavern in Montpelier Center. **DAN ROLLES**

## Better Things, *Getting Worse*

(SELF-RELEASED, CD/DIGITAL, DOWNLOAD)

What happens when one fails outright being happy? At the brightest end of the spectrum, you get something like New Jersey's *Pinegrove*. That band's 2014 album, *Comedown*, still bristles with emotional urgency but tempers the melodrama with dispiriting musical and lyrical sophistication — not to mention healthy doses of winking charm and very funny. Just a notch or two below, you might find Burlington's Better Things. On their debut album, *Getting Worse*, the self-described "old-school/emo" outfit unabashedly espouses a love for catchy, anthemic hooks — and infectious politics. But beneath the pop-punk or candy — hell, it's practically a whole candy store — something more sustainable and healthier is at work.



Better Things have a lot of heart, broken and otherwise, all of which they pour into the 11 tracks on *Getting Worse*. They gracefully discuss the latter as a tormented downpour of overindulgence. (The album actually begins with a track alert from the Emergency Weather System in Burlington, warning of all manner of natural calamity.) Taken solely at face value, the album — produced with muscle by Robert DeGuzman's Ryan Cohen — sounds every bit the earnest and faithful product of influences ranging

from My Chemical Romance and Jimmy Eat World to Spring Day Bed Estate. Even the title hints at one anguish.

What elevates *Getting Worse* from rote dysfunction is the depth and stature of the band's collective songwriting — Brian LaCher (guitar, vocals), Brad Wilson (guitar, vocals), Quentin Cardinale (bass) and Mark Weber (drums, vocals) all contribute songs. Perhaps as their name implies, Better Things take a cheerful and more optimistic outlook than your average emo band. After all, happiness and good humor are emotions, too, right?

For proof, look no farther than the album's song titles. Opener "Getting Lost in New Hampshire" is as introspective take on one-night stands. "Cassanova With a K" is a classic "back you" breakup song. "Stick That in Your Jeopardy and Flip It" is an ironic caution-of-age postcard.

Take note, some moments of historic sadness abound — such as "I Hate You." But even then, Better Things find ways to break from the norm. The aching "Apophysis" will choke you up with heartbreak. "This Particular Feeling Out" pairs post-punk punch with hairpin earth-melting turns. "En-Filex," a song whose lyrics likely give the band its name, transcribes breaking-up into a catharsis. Here's the last pre-chorus. "And we'll have better things / That are, we'll see better days."

Better Things don't shy away from their pop-punk and emo inclinations. Far from it. They fully embrace them — and what else band could use a half? But they also achieve a rare feat in using their favorite inspirations as a springboard to more creative and personal expression. In local pop-punk, it doesn't get much better than *Getting Worse*.

*Getting Worse* by Better Things is available at betterthingsbandcamp.com. **DAN ROLLES**



**GET YOUR MUSIC REVIEWED:**

IF YOU'RE AN INDEPENDENT ARTIST OR BAND MAKING MUSIC IN VT, SEND YOUR CD TO US! DAN ROLLES CAN REVIEW S&S 25.5 CASH/PLAIN ST, SUITE 5 BURLINGTON VT 05401



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## CLUB DATES

NO. 101 HAVENLY, 101 HAVENLY

## music

### SAT 3 WTR

**CLUB METRONOME** (Horseshoe North)  
JAZZ/POP (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**HALLOWEEN SPARKS** (Bravo)  
Heavy Metal (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free  
Sonic Space (with John DePasci)  
10 p.m., free

**JPS POP** (Knoxville with Megan 10 p.m., free)

**JAMFEST** (Jett Beyond) (10 p.m., free)

**LIAR'S CLUB LAMP SHIRAZ** (Bravo)  
Frankie R. (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**LIAR'S CLUB LAMP SHIRAZ** (Bravo)  
Frankie R. (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**MANHATTAN PIZZA PUP** (Bravo)  
The R. (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**METAL** (Bravo)  
The R. (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**RAIDERS** (Bravo)  
The R. (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**RED SOX** (Bravo)  
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## The Son Also Rises

No musical style exists in a vacuum. Not even hard music. Whether old or new or innumerable other genres in between, all are connected. In the storied realm of Cuban music, few navigate the bridges between genres quite as fluidly as Brooklyn's **OLA FRESCA**. Under the direction of bandleader Jose Conde, for more than a decade the ensemble has explored the colorful, groovy nexus where Cuban son, rumba, mambo, bolero and even funk intersect. This Saturday September 3, *Ola Fresca* play a show appropriately dubbed "El Rodeo to Havana" at ArtsRoot in Burlington, with DJ **SHAMUS GAO**.



SAT 3 JV OLA FRESCA (CURRY)

**middlebury area**

**33 HALL AT THE BRIDGE** (The Lounge)  
The Lounge (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**CITY LIMITS** (City Limits)  
The Lounge (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**TWO BROTHERS SUPER LOOSE** (The Lounge)  
The Lounge (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**champlain islands/northeast**

**BAR JAZZ** (The Lounge)  
The Lounge (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

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## MON.5

### Burlington

**CLUB METRONOME** (Horseshoe North)  
JAZZ/POP (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**HALLOWEEN SPARKS** (Bravo)  
Heavy Metal (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

**JPS POP** (Knoxville with Megan 10 p.m., free)

**JAMFEST** (Jett Beyond) (10 p.m., free)

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Frankie R. (10 p.m.-12 a.m.) 7 p.m., free

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## MON 8/11/14

mad river valley/  
newbury

**SLIM WHISKY LAKE & TINKER**  
Mad River Valley Musicfest Tiger  
Country 8 p.m.-10 p.m.

## northeast kingdom

**PIST KAFF'S DANCE** Jay Nichols  
Tobacco 8 p.m.-10 p.m.

## outside newmont

**SLIM WHISKY LAKE** Karaoke with DJ  
Steve Berry 9 p.m.-10 p.m.

## TUE. 6

## burke/burlington

**JPS PUB** Open Mic with 8 p.m., 9 p.m., 10 p.m.

**LEAVES & GARDENS & CAFE** Stephen  
Huskins 9 p.m.-10 p.m.

**LEAFY CLAW LAMP SHOP**  
Storytelling 7 p.m.-10 p.m.

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Storytelling 7 p.m.-10 p.m.

**MANHATTAN PIZZA & PUB** Host  
Barbara Conner 10 p.m.-11 p.m.

**NEIGHBOR'S Diner** Karaoke with DJ  
Steve Berry 9 p.m.-10 p.m.

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Steve Berry 9 p.m.-10 p.m.

**WATERWORKS PUB & GRILL** Tessa  
Nights 7 p.m.-10 p.m.

## barre/vmont/pelley

**CHARLIE O'S MOUNTAIN PAPER**  
Guitarist Karaoke 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m.  
DJ PETER NICHOLSON, Guitars  
with DJ Peter Nicholson 5:30 p.m.-10 p.m.

## stone/vermont

**MOON PLACE** Jason Nichols  
7:30 p.m.-10 p.m.

## middlebury area

**TWO BROTHERS TAVERN LAUNGE & STAGE** Karaoke with DJ  
Steve Berry 9 p.m.-10 p.m.

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Steve Berry 9 p.m.-10 p.m.

## WED. 7

## burke/burlington

**THE DASH PLANET** Jack O'Connell  
Guitarist 8 p.m.-10 p.m.

**HALLOWEEN SKEWERS** DJ Lory  
Nichols 10 p.m.-11 p.m.

**JPS PUB** Pub Quiz with DJ Steve  
Berry 9 p.m.-10 p.m.

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**JPS PUB** Pub Quiz with DJ Steve  
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**THE SMOKE PANCAKE**  
Burlington 10 p.m.-11 p.m.

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## MON 8/11/14 (MAC SABBATH DRIVE-THRU MEET)



## Do You Want Flies With That?

Los Angeles' **MAC SABBATH** are the architects of a sub-sub-culture of heavy metal, disco-theatrical. The quartet, whose members include Ronald Dabrowski, Skipper MacCheese, Grindalizer and Camberly, are essentially a parody of Black Sabbath, as well as various other metal tropes. But the secret sauce is how they fly the green with a versatile subculture of songs about fast food. Equal parts GWAR, "Weird Al" Yankovic and Ronald McDonald, the band is every bit as filling — and grossy — as a dollar menu. Mac Sabbath play this Monday, September 8, at Club Metronome in Burlington with **QUINN'S FRIED** and the **REASSEMBLY OF GARBAGE BIRD**, as part of the ongoing Metal Monday series.

For up-to-the-minute news about live music events, follow @burkeburlington on Twitter or visit the Live Culture blog: [www.burkeburlington.com/liveculture](http://www.burkeburlington.com/liveculture)



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Sophie Pickens left, and Justin Jackson

## Generation Next

Northern Daughters builds on an Addison County art legacy

BY RACHEL ELIZABETH JONES

**K**ids who grew up in Vermont often spread their wings and take off for the big city so it can be easier for children when those fledglings return — particularly when they put down new roots with a local business. That's exactly what Justin Jackson, 30, and Sophie Pickens, 31, did, opening an art gallery in Vergennes called Northern Daughters — NoDa for short.

In June, the women signed a three-year lease on the 1,800-square-foot space at 221 Main Street. They spent the next couple of months renovating and restructuring with the help of family members.

Pickens and Jackson began scheming to launch this project less than a year ago. During a recent interview in the gallery, both referenced a coffee-shop conversation they had had in Brooklyn, where Jackson had lived since 2010, and

Pickens since 2009. Each intended to settle in Vermont eventually, they said, and plans for a gallery "inspired pretty organically," according to Pickens.

"It's always been the plan to move home," she affirmed.

"[Coming home] has never been a question," said Jackson. "I never left, I just went somewhere else."

Both women grew up in Bristol, the daughters of artists and businesswomen.

Jackson's mother is the New Haven painter Anne Galy, whose work has been represented at the Woodstock Gallery and Middlebury's Edgewater Gallery, among others. When she was growing up, Jackson recalled, her mother readily incorporated her and her siblings into her life as a working artist. Jackson "absorbed [that artistic ethic] by osmosis," she said. Prior to NoDa's inauguration, she'd been working to open an art business for some time.

Pickens is the daughter of Pamela Smith, a painter and sculptor who moved the family, believed Bristol shop Folliebert, which closed in 2007. Smith's vibrant, life-size Madonna pop-artish sculptures transformed the small storefront windows into a miniature gallery.

According to a 2007 article in the *Addison County Independent*, Pickens sometimes helped her mother with those works. Five of Smith's Virgin Mary-inspired figures were shown in 2008 at the American Visionary Art Museum in Baltimore as part of the exhibition "All Things Beautiful." One of Smith's Madonnas, "Mama Tao," is currently on view at NoDa.

Both Smith and Galy are included on the gallery's opening roster, giving special appearance to the gallery's new. Recalling early brainstorming sessions, Jackson said, "Once we got to

'Northern Daughters,' the conversation just stopped."

For Pickens, "Northern" grew as a space and a place, related to this land that helped raise us, [and 'Daughters'] links to our human lineage." The connotations of being a northern daughter, she said, include "a certain wildness and fierceness — and being an artist in this dry and age takes a certain cooler fierceness."

In addition to Galy and Smith, NoDa currently hosts works by four other artists: Clark Derbes, Eben Markowski, Camassa Schmitt and Ricardo Vercoren. Both Derbes and Schmitt are Vermont artists who work abstractly. Derbes is up-and-falls-inspired sculpture and Schmitt enlarges oil paintings. Markowski, who fashions industrial, sculptural animals using matted metals, recently showed work at Burlington's Flyndig gallery. Based









## James Benoit

The Vermont photographer presents "City Landscapes in Placitas, Boulder, Berkeley, and San Francisco." This collection of digital black-and-white images features glimpses of Burlington's varied architectural features and landscapes. Benoit offers, "Architecture is a fitting subject for black-and-white photography, with the color stripped away to reveal the essence of the subject's shape, shadows, textures, lines, patterns and the relationship of physical space to the human experience." Through September 30. Pictasand: "Ben & Jerry's Store 2035."

and 50th years. Through September 19. Info: 545-2448. Fairfield Southside Gallery in Shelburne.

**SHAWNEE HEDDER: AMERICAN MODERN** This exhibition co-organized with Farmington Museum shows years' worth of Hedder's paintings, watercolor and related materials by Anna Mary Robertson. Hedder also shows her 19th-century folk and modern art. Info: Through October 20. **JOHN HARRIS: LANDSCAPE** "Once Upon a Day," an exhibition of 75 watercolor by the Boston-based artist. Through October 30. **GERARD LAMONTAGNE: "Wind, Storm and Light"** An outdoor exhibition of eight large-scale abstract watercolor paintings. Through October 31. Info: 545-2346. Shelburne Museum.

**CH. TALLER: THE ART OF THE EYE** A group exhibition of 20 glass artist works will focus on the history, technique and science of light. Reception: Saturday September 30, 5-6 p.m. Through October 31. Info: 435-2127. School of Vermont Museum in Montpelier.

**LINDA A. HARRINGTON: "The Art of Harbored Tide"** An exhibition featuring nearly two dozen works of hand-carved lichen. Through August 31. Info: 478-4058. Friends Library in Middlebury.

**LINDA ANN PERKINS: "Reflections of a Vermont Artist"** An exhibition of watercolor, oil and woodcut art. Through September 30. Info: 879-4949. 1849s Green House in Essex Junction.

**MICHAEL GARRISON: "The Goodly Photograph"** This exhibition features an artist's work in Europe and England during the 19th century, as well as his work in painted plates, Vermont, New York and provinces of Canada. Through August 31. Info: 207-8548. Hootling Living Market in Cold River, Burlington.

## Barnes/Annex Gallery

**WORKS BY COLONY** Works in a variety of mediums and styles by members of the Vermont Art Association. Reception: **ANDY SARGA: An exhibition of prints, acrylic paintings and photography** Through September 30. Info: 252-6233. T.W. Wood Gallery in Montpelier.

**BOB KITT: A SOLI VISION** An exhibition devoted to Kitt's art from 1970-1990, with a focus on his work in the 1970s.

by 10 artists in small windows. Artists include: **Renata Caracciolo, Anna Dobbie, Janet Fendrick, Anna Gifford, Steven P. Goodman, Wendy James, Mark Lynch, Rickie Myers, Maggie Hurd, Elizabeth Hansen, Adelaide Murphy, Tracy, John Schaller, Joyce Shoup, David Smith, Kelly Smith and Frank Woods.** Through November 25. Info: jessica@rockwellproject.net, Rockwell.

**THE CLAYTONS' VISION** "The Clayton family is a family of artists. From 11 members of the East of Vermont Painters' Museum, Reception: Friday September 2, 4-5 p.m. Through October 30. Info: 252-6233. Vermont State Museum in Montpelier.

**HENRY A. BURKE, JR.** "A collection of photographs taken in Europe in the early 1950s by the late Burlington photographer." Through October 31. Info: 252-6233. The New in Montpelier.

**WINTERWATER** An exhibition of watercolor by members of the Vermont Printmaking Studio. Includes: **Local Artists: William C. Brown, Susan, Philip, David, Janet, Cathy, Rachel, Bruce, David, Harold, Thomas, Victoria, Graham, Ian, Emily, Jeff, Louise, Carol, Lippman, Elizabeth, Mary, Emily, Patrick, Ruth, Peter and Henry.** Through September 31. Info: 252-6233. Central Vermont Medical Center in Berlin.

**JULIANA CASANO FEDER: "Landscape in a Room"** An exhibition of paintings of local scenes and landscapes. Through September 30. Info: 426-3071. Joseph Public Library in Montpelier.

**MICHAEL SHENK: "A Journey of a Thousand Miles"** An exhibition of paintings that address landscape and human experience. Reception: Friday September 2, 4-5 p.m. Through September 30. Info: 252-6233. Hootling Living Market in Cold River, Burlington.

**ANDY SARGA: "An exhibition of prints, acrylic paintings and photography"** Through September 30. Info: 252-6233. T.W. Wood Gallery in Montpelier.



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through  
December 15





# movies

## Don't Breathe ★★★★★

**T**he Ring King meets Taken in the sophomore season from director Rodo Alcala (2013's *Live Dead* remake), only one of the most scared and sensitive horror films in recent memory. This is a picture with a certain amount of *Wax* (2005) or *Dark* (1967) in its DNA, as well, given that it tells the story of a blind man whose the victim of a home invasion. Well, his home is invaded, anyway.

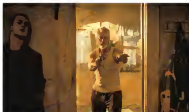
The setting is the real-life dystopia of modern-day Detroit. Our protagonists are three twenty-somethings looking to better themselves the easy way: Rocky (Dylan Levay), Money (Daniel Zovatto) and Alex (Dylan Minnette) can't find jobs, but they can find suburban dwellers ripe for knocking into, thanks to Alex's dad's home-arms-ry business.

Each of the three has a justification for this life of small-time crime: Rocky's mother is an abusive piece of work, and she dumps all of her anger and jealousy on him; Alex's sister is out there in California; Money is a wannabe gangster who fancies himself a ladies' man. Alex is a fresh-faced kid who has a crush on Rocky and opposes the robberies as a means of keeping her safe as possible, with the hopes of getting to hang with her.

When the three hear about an old blind guy who lives in a nearby suburban neighborhood, supposedly with a fortune in old hard cash hidden in his house, it's like they've won the lottery. They think they've located one of the richest money of their lives, not to mention the biggest haul. What could go wrong?

Well, for starters, it turns out the guy is a vet with a very particular set of skills. He lost his sight when diagnosed with a prostate gland and died his eyes to hell. That isn't the only thing he's lost. His daughter was killed in a car accident caused by a rich girl, hence the animus or so in retirement money-flying around. When the trio figures out his place in the middle of the night, they find him asleep in bed a home movie of the little girl playing on his television. As his memories are about to leave, the dad's a victim of eyes just waiting for a reason to explode.

They give him a good one. Plopped by a comatose Stephen King, their intent is their worst nightmare, a highly trained hard ass who can talk with his eyes closed. Silence and sinister facial expressions orchestrate a white-knuckle game of cat and mouse that, I should add, takes place after the Blind Men (John's here he's credibly looks the threat in the



**DON'T LOOK NOW** (clockwise from top left) *Don't Breathe* has an unexpected twist: The blind target is the hero the trio mark they expected

house. It doesn't get better than the moment when the old guy cuts the power, stranding the disoriented young people in the darkness. He's learned to navigate so deftly.

Though it does get windy. When Alcala lacks it experience, he makes up for it in great stunts, just when you think you know who's guilty and who's innocent, he starts flipping open narrative trap doors. By Act Three, we've suddenly got a whole new moral dynamic on our hands, and suspense equanimity is as likely to die same intense shifting. Movie critic Joe Pickett says my

my movie. Except two words: *twisty* *honor*. Thanking my insurance guy, we'll never be quite the same.

*Don't Breathe* is a scary weird, terrific, only sort and peculiarly directed with a wonderful feel for the material. No jump scares. No suspense, horror-like, win. credits. Just less, more, edge of your seat movie making. Thriller the wicked out and well-earned don't come along every day. Don't miss it.

RICK KISLOVAK

## Don't Think Twice ★★★★★

**S**tories of show bus anxiety are nothing new in the movies, given that it's a topic with which there's no one possibly familiar. But there's a unique poignancy to seeing such a story in the world of improv comedy, because it's one of the most group-oriented of late pursuits there is.

While improv comedy runs the audience down, improv troupes are built on relationships of mutual support, on the assurance that each player will up, "Yes, and..." to the next second impulse of the others' story starters. In improv, as an instructor tells students in writer-director Mike Birbiglia's *Don't Think Twice*, functioning as a collective group is an honorable failure. Functioning as a bunch of students taking individuals is just embarrassing. But what happens when the members of a close-knit improv troupe die, secretly or openly, one a spotlight they want lives to share?

Birbiglia has his standup and radio poster success, Birbiglia (Ginsburgh Web) also has experience in the improv world, and he brings much respect to this story of one group threatened by a member's defection. Birbiglia acts as Miles, founding member of a 10-person troupe called the Comixes, whose members are as creative as the New York comedy scene. They're well respected enough that their shows draw tens of thousands from "Weekend Live" (longer for "Sunday Night Live"). But several of them share a tiny



**GROUP TALK** (clockwise from top left) Birbiglia's troupe is the focus of his feature

apartment, and their group doesn't want to close its doors for good.

Younger troupe member Jack (Kieran Michael Key) dreams of something more, when "Weekend Live" offers him an audition, he jumps. That doesn't sit well with Miles, who's already blown several such chances. He likes to tell his students he was "on such a high" from becoming a "WU" (and member). Jack's girlfriend, Sam (Jillian Jacobs of "Gimme Shelter"), thought to control tradition, but she's less

going to cheer having the troupe, wondering if success really means starting on a show that everyone spins out all that busy.

The Comixes, some of them pasting 40, are facing that watershed moment when creative types decide whether it's worth it to keep pursuing a non-lucrative passion. Bill (Chris Gethard) is a wretched bar-fisher drollard, Lindsey (Tom Hughes) is stuck in failing with her last parents' album (Kate Mearns) wonders why she put aside her dream of being a car

music. Even Miles — who's made a habit of sleeping with his twenty-something students — is tempted by reality. Not all of these characters are fully developed. Some, in particular, could have more to develop. But their anxiety supports a story that's convincing.

The rhythm of improv isn't easy to capture in a scripted drama. It's all too easy to portray a troupe as a bunch of oddballs trying to make one another in weakness. But Birbiglia understands that understanding is actually improv's enemy (When Jack shames his Obama impersonation into a scene, trying to impress the women in the audience, his colleagues shut him a major side-eye). During the Comixes's shows, the camera steps up, stage, moving fluidly from person to person as each takes his or her turn at bringing the scene to life. Although the improv is scripted, the members and their roles are real — so is the tendency of the Comixes members to keep right on improving skills.

*Don't Think Twice* doesn't paint its characters in black or white, or see why a spot on "Weekend Live" is so coveted, and how it might be a comedienne, in other ways, from the comedians these six have built over the years. A low-key drama and a surprisingly funny comedy rolled into one, Birbiglia's film suggests that improv and life have something in common. We're all making it up as we go.

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Both Shows  
Flannery: Jordan  
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Savages Party

**Friday 29 — Saturday 30**

Both Shows  
Flannery: Jordan  
Savages Party  
Savages Party

**Monday 31 — Tuesday 1**

Both Shows  
Flannery: Jordan  
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Half an Hour Water

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"The Secret Life of Pets"

**Friday 23 — Saturday 24**

Don't Think Twice  
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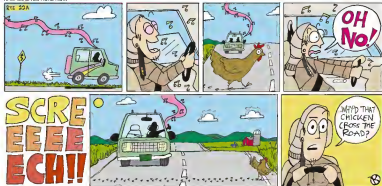


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**What, we have been already? Nope.**

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based upon illustrations

from the comic strip of  
Max Cannon



## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW





## VIRGO

AUG 23-SEPT 22

Play a joke on your curious anxiety. Leap off the ground or what-in-it-a-one-five times as you shout, "I am inside of love!" Learn the secrets and mystery to a new song that lifts your mood whenever you sing it. Visualize yourself going on an adventure that will amplify your courage and surprise your heart. Make a bold promise to yourself and require an evocative object that will stimulate your intention to fulfill that promise. Ask yourself a solid whirling question you haven't been wise enough to investigate before now. Go to a wide open space spread your arms out like a greeting to the sky and glow for a vision of your next big goal.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) Trust desire in its early stages. If you take action soon, you can prevent a full-scale disconnection. But be forewarned: Things could get messy especially if you interfere with the relentless, tender and fiery that will be required for medical practitioners. So what do you think? Are you up for the challenge? I understand if you're not. Be brave, my friend. If you simply don't feel it, do decide to work your charge magic here as some tips. 1. Compile your evidence with regard to 2. As much as a heavenly goddess put aside minor. Root your efforts in compassion and grace. 3. Free as you dig around in the unglorious facts, cherish the beauty

ful truths you'll find to replace them with **TAURUS** (April 20-May 20) Are you willing to live at least some of your children? Are you curious to find out what it feels like to court like a new wild child? If you want to fully cooperate with life's plans, you will need to consider these causes of action. I am hoping that you'll accept the dose of course. I suspect you will throw in you replace the pleasures of playful sexuality and whimsical courage and unforeseen experiences. So be better: Taurus be understood to open to the hypothesis that opening to purity and pure possibilities is the single most intelligent thing you can do right now.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) Admits the sacred status of your relationship with your best friend? Have you been cultivating and cherishing your connection with the earth below you? The reward and benefit is that right now it's especially important for you to enjoy intimacy with poverty and abundance without losing your down and deeper will be a source of good fortune. Feeling grounded will provide you with an aptitude for practical magic. Consider the possibilities of being healed, getting a fresh message or loving new ideas that are both beautiful and comfortable.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22) A woman in the final stages of going forth may experience more discomfort. But once her infant spills out into the world her desires can transform into bliss. I don't foresee quite so dramatic a shift for you, Cancerian. But the horizon you glimpse could have stellar elements, from uncertainty to grace. From rejection to relief. From confusion to spontaneous. To take maximum advantage of this blessing, don't hold on to the state you're leaving behind — or the feelings it created in you.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22). In one of my dreams last night, a celestial being I know advised me to take court tips and not an entire character: choose before writing my next. Let me encourage: be another dream, my Leo friend. I suspect that I compose your horoscope while reflecting on your where all the participants were blessed physicians, musicians and poets. In a third dream, my old teacher Rachel (who is Leo) said I should create the Leo horoscope as I scolded me at a beach in Maui while being messaged by two sexy gnomes. Here's how I interpret my dreams. In the coming days you can literally increase your intelligence by indulging in luxurious comforts and sensory delights.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) The blueprint do not want you to receive the prophecy I have prepared for you. Nor do the Deities of the New World Order, the Church of the SubGenius, the Fake God that misrepresents as the Real God or the nagging little voice in the back of your head. For why am I going ahead and doing so this reader anyway? Because I love you. My loyalty is to you, not these shadowy powers. Therefore I am pleased to affirm you that the coming weeks will be a favorable time for you to decide ignore, understand or rebel against, controlling influences that seek to enmesh with your souls path.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) The dictionary says that the verb "to schemes" means to cheat with people in order to promote oneself or make a small connection that may prove to be advantageous. But that definition puts a selfish spin on an activity that can, at least sometimes, be carried out with mutual integrity. Your involvement in the coming weeks is to perform this noble version of scheming. If you are offering a product or service that is beautiful or useful or hard, I hope you will boast its presence and influence with the power of your past beloved dedication and commitment.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) If you are attuned with the cosmic rhythms in the coming weeks, you will be a source of teaching and learning. Allow all feel fertilized by your creative vigor. Build deliberate time again with your serving spirit to give a testimony. If anyone can move through procrastination and demonstrate the catalytic power of gratitude it'll be you. Have you heard enough good news, Sagittarius, or can you absorb more? I suspect that you'll inspire interesting expressions of harmony that will replace contrived versions of togetherness. And every

blissous you become will expand your capacity for attracting favors you can really use.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) The Esoteric character known as Saturnus has no position, subtlety, the mineral hypothesis. When he's near the staff it weakens his supporters and may cause other problems. I think we all have our own versions of Neptune, even if they're not depicted. For instance, my own supporters tend to decline when I come into the presence of bad characters, always poetry and off-chance singing. How about you, Capricorn? What's your version of Neptune? Whatever it is, I'm happy to let you know that you are coming to be less susceptible to its debilitating influence. However? What? Well you have a softness about how to avoid it. And even if it does creep near you have as your intentions some new tricks to keep it from sapping your strength.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) It's quite possible you will receive seductive proposals in the coming weeks. You may also be invited to join your fortunes with potential collaborators who have almost fully answered to your charms. I should be surprised if you receive requests to share your talents, after your vision of the future. You're a rare find, prospect, my dear. Be in an attractive habitat. You appear to be ready for the playing. How should you respond? My advice is to be flirted and glibbed but also discerning. Just because an inquiry is exciting doesn't mean it's good for you. Choose carefully.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) Would you like to become a master of misdeed? Can you imagine yourself handling the challenges of togetherness with the skill of a great artist and the wisdom of a law person? If that prospect appeals to you now would it be a favorable time to do your part. Here's a hint to get you started: You must cultivate some seemingly contradictory skills. The first is the capacity to identify and nurture the best qualities in your beloved friend. The second is the ability to thrive on the fact that healthy relationships require you to periodically merge with each other's nonshared maturity.

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